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Victory Sports Wrestling

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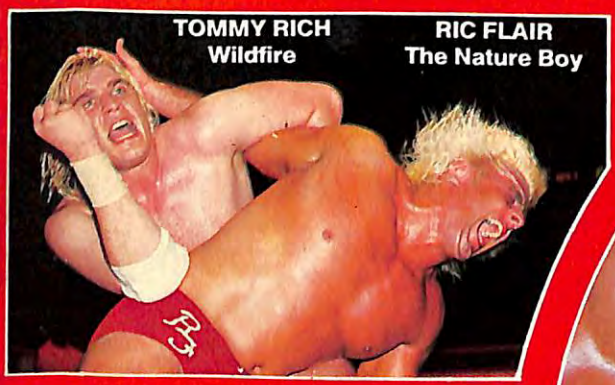

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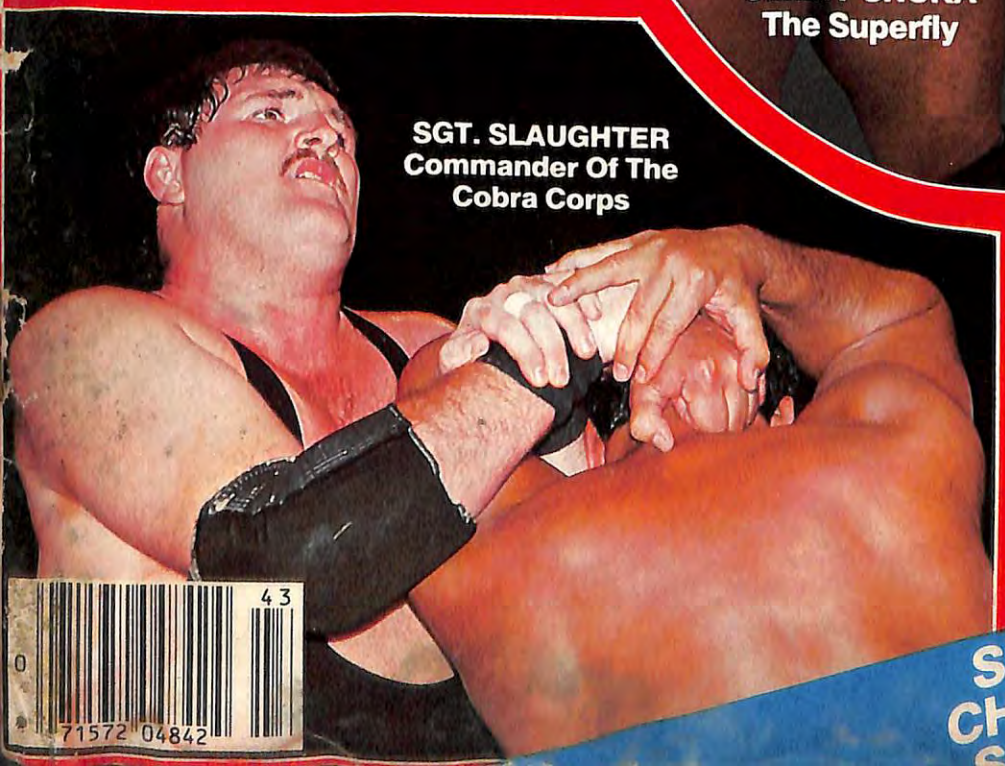

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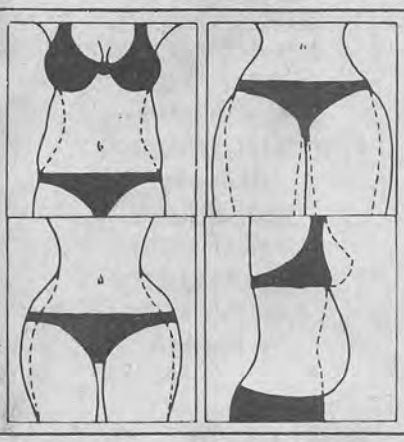

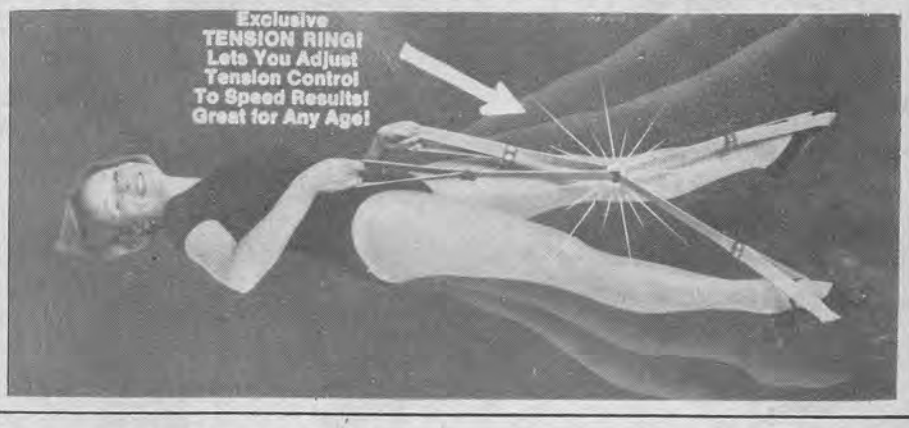

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Victory Sports Wrestling

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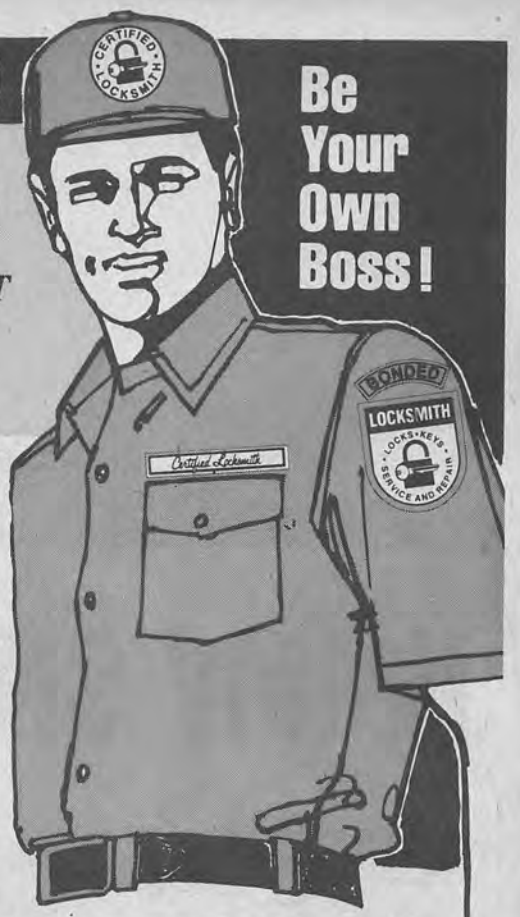

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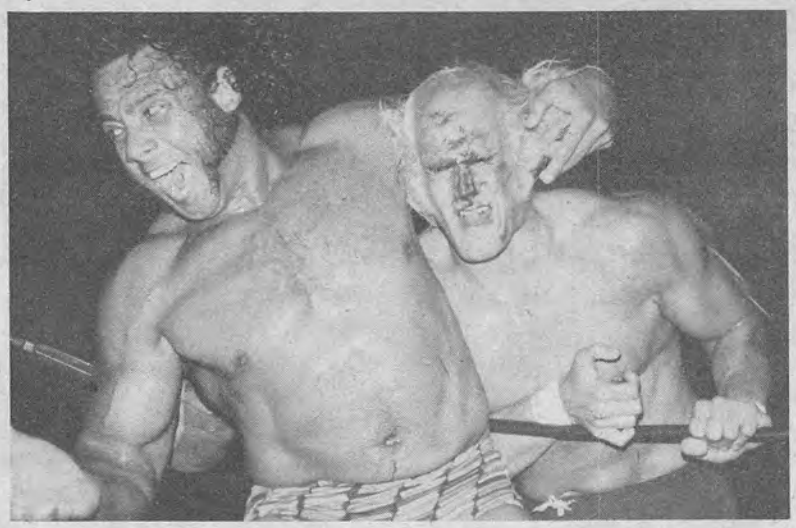

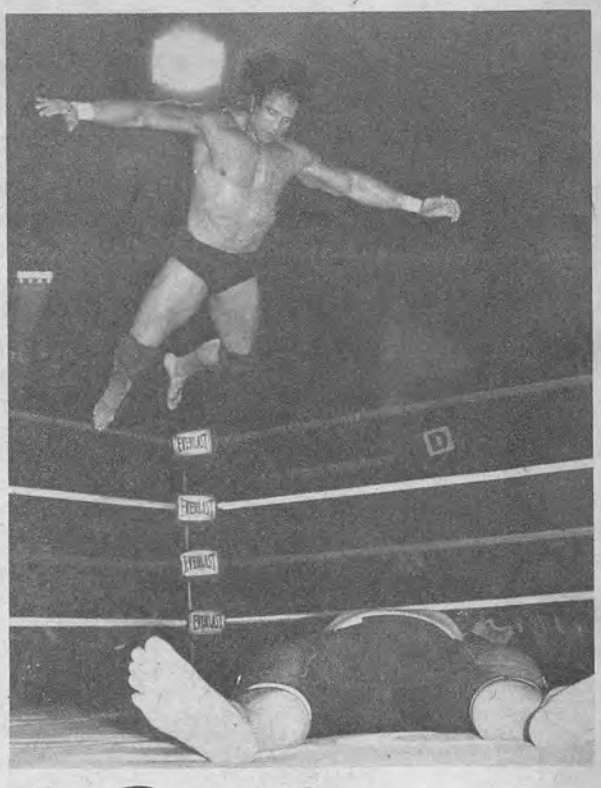

JIMMY SNUKA:

The Superfly

Top left: Blinded by his own blood, Jesse Ventura is better off not seeing what is going to happen next! Top right: Note the look in Snuka's eyes as he performs the "superfly" on Mr. Fuji. Above: The Fiji native drops upon the chest of Ox Baker.

JIMMY SNUKA IS the most daring and exciting wrestler the WWF has ever seen *("You gotta take chances if you expect to be kept in the soul of wrestling fans, brother")* ... Originally from the Fiji Islands *("That's where I learned how to 'superfly.' There are lots of cliffs on my island, and I must have dove off every one of them")* ... Is also one of wrestling's best-built athletes, having won two weightlifting titles, Mr. Hawaii and Mr. Fiji Island *("The body of a man must be kept in as good a shape as his mind or he is nothing")* ... Never lost an amateur match ... Began his pro career in 1969, but a lack of managerial contacts slowed his progress *("Sometimes you must compromise your beliefs for your career. At first, I wouldn't do it")* ... First shot at national exposure came on May 18, 1977, when he made his debut in Texas *("I was very scared that night. I didn't know what to expect from these Texas fans")* ... He needn't have worried: His high-flying style made him an instant fan

(Continued on page 8)

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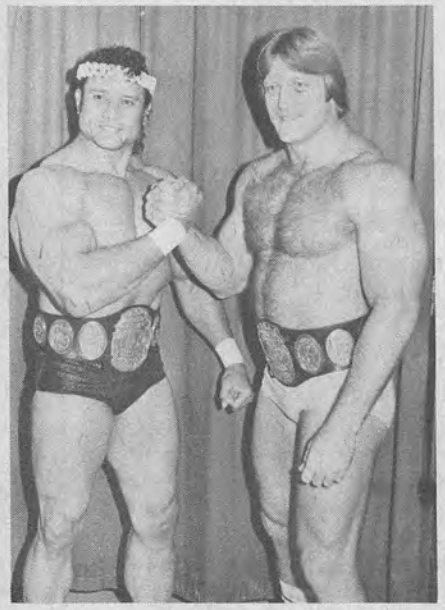
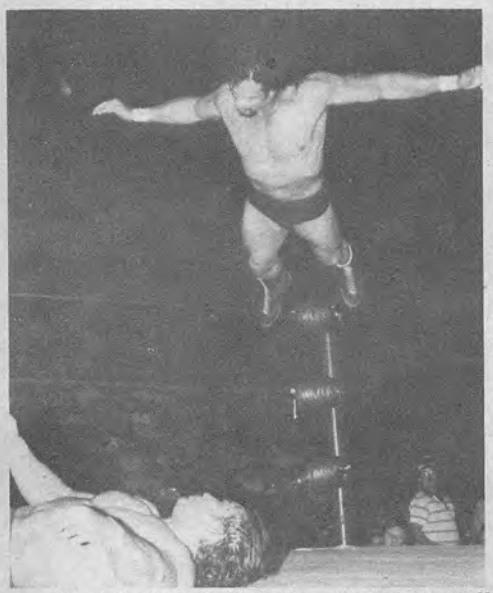
JIMMY SNUKA

(Continued from page 6)

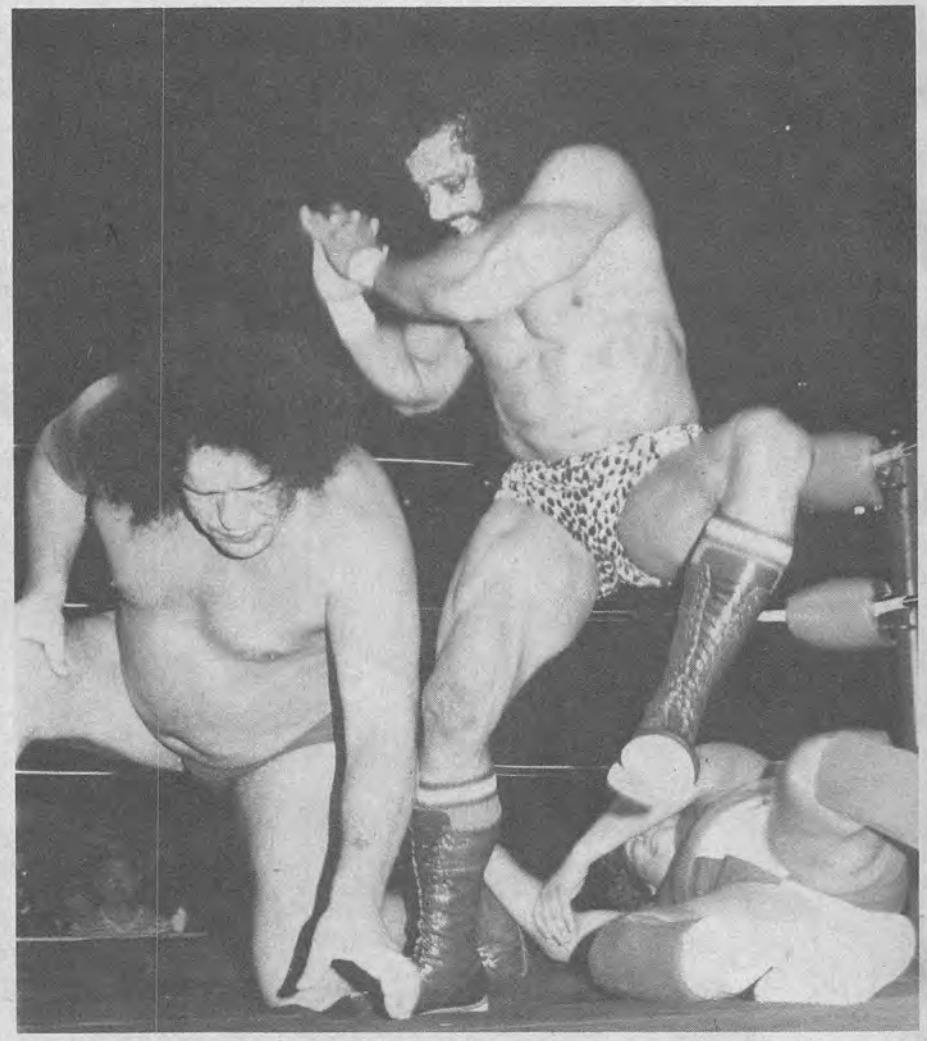




Top left: Now rivals, Snuka and Paul Orndorff held the NWA tag team belts in 1980. Above: The Superfly swoops in on Rick Steamboat. Right: Snuka batters Andre the Giant.

favorite . . . Later in 1977, he won the NWA tag team championship with partner Paul Orndorff *("Then, Paul was an honorable man. Today, he is 'Mr. Wonderful,' and he pretends we never teamed")* . . . Also campaigned in the Pacific Northwest, where he won that region's heavyweight title *("The fans were wonderful to me everywhere I went")* . . . Traveled to the Mid-Atlantic, and soon won the prestigious U.S. championship *("Things were happening too fast, brother, and I was having trouble coping with my success. I was easy prey for the jackals")* . . . After losing the U.S. title, he changed his philosophy toward the fans and began teaming with Ray Stevens . . . The two formed an enormously successful team, although the fans hated the now rulebreaking Superfly *("It was so easy winning matches this way, I didn't care what the fans felt in their hearts toward*

(Continued on page 54)



Snuka gets revenge against Lou Albano (left) for the Captain's and Ray Stevens' vicious assault (below).

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Finger fitting grip makes this a real handful of cutting power. With 4" mirror polished razor sharp stainless steel blade, finger guard protection, lifetime warranty against breakage. Black plastic handle with shiny metal trim. Smooth opening. Locks firmly into position to prevent accidental closing.

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7½" open 4" closed

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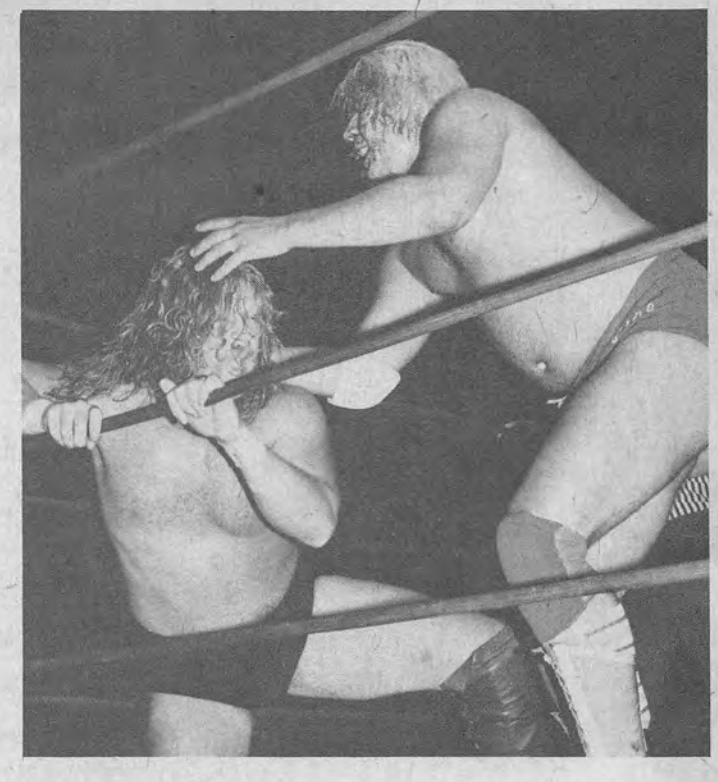
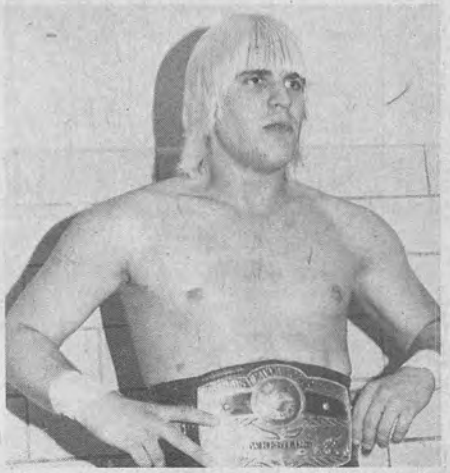
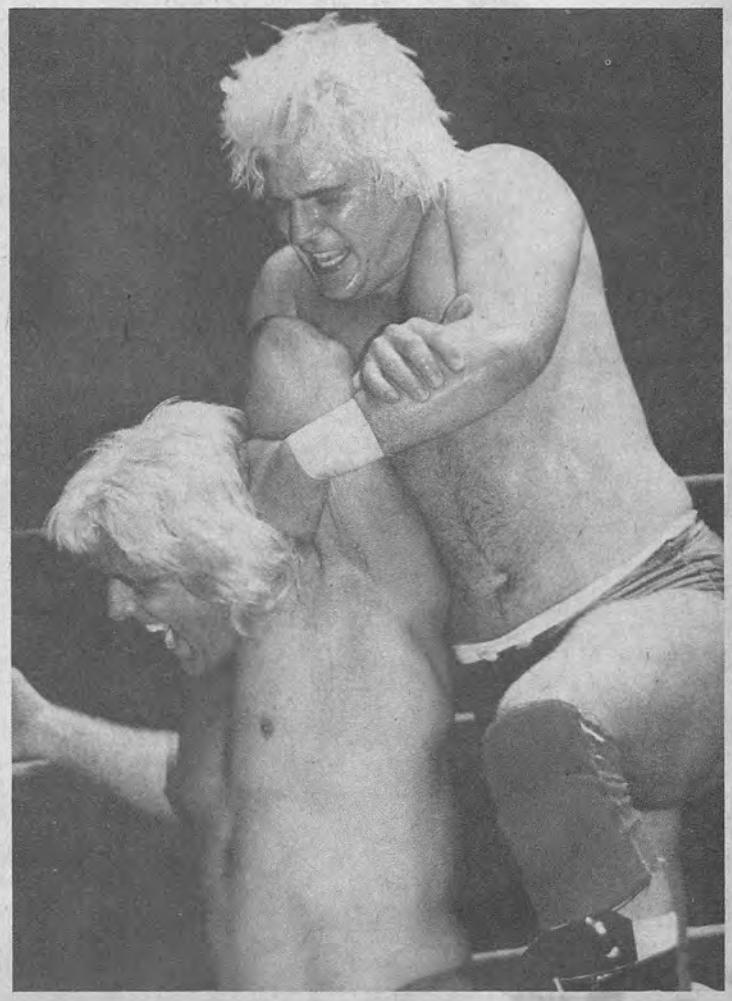


TOMMY RICH: *Wildfire*

DESPITE HIS YOUTH, Tommy Rich has already had a career full of triumphs and despair *("Everythin' kinda happened so fast, it made my head spin for a while")* . . . Early in his career, rode a wave of popularity that was earned because of his good looks, kindly manners, and determined style *("Some folks said I had everythin' easy because I was good lookin'. Most people who said that were ugly, of course")* . . . First became a national figure with success in Georgia, where he was guided by

(Continued on page 12)





Tommy Rich proudly wore the NWA belt for five days in April 1981 (above). After losing the belt, Rich stayed in the ratings with victories over tough men like Bill Irwin (top right). His attempts to win the belt a second time have been thwarted by current champ Ric Flair, although Rich often has the upper hand in their bouts (right).

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Truly incredible! Incredibly true! Finally, you can crash the barrier to genuine person-to-person thought communication as you never could before. All alone, with no help, no tricks of any kind, perform the fantastic feat that defies explanation: *Actually visualize ideas, images, and words from someone else's mind right in your own head—as if you were reading the pages of a book!*

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I know exactly what you are thinking right now.

You are quite intrigued. And most skeptical. You sincerely believe that is absolutely impossible. That *no one* can really read anyone else's mind. From miles away? *Never!*

You have every right to be unconvinced. "Mind-reading" is usually a stunt performed on TV or in a club. We all know that such demonstrations rely on some kind of secret gimmick.

That while it's great entertainment—it's an out and out fake. Certainly not the *real* thing.

The real thing—for use in real life—is what I am talking about. Like you, I was totally doubtful that it could ever be done "off-stage." Especially by the *average* person.

AT LAST! THE REVOLUTIONARY TECHNIQUE THAT TURNS FANTASY INTO SHEER REALITY!

Something happened that converted me from a die-hard cynic into a fervent believer. *The "Mind-Read" Manuscript crossed my desk.*

As a publisher, I read many manuscripts. Yet, this particular one caught my eye at once. I had heard about the author. He is a highly-gifted psychic with a record for pioneering in the field of extra-sensory perception.

His manuscript stunned me. Practically knocked me off my chair. Any lingering doubt I ever had about the "impossibility" of person-to-person mind communication went flying out the window!

I just couldn't believe my eyes. Here it was, in black and white. Written in simple language anyone could understand. An easy-to-learn *break-through* technique to enable an ordinary man or woman to read someone else's mind. Anytime. Anywhere. *At will!*

A TECHNIQUE SO POWERFUL IT MIGHT EVEN BE ILLEGAL!

My first inclination was to burn the manuscript. To destroy it entirely. In the wrong hands, it could be *dynamite!*

Then I had second thoughts. Why should I be a censor? I believe in a free press. So I printed up a limited edition for distribution *only* to those who will use the technique carefully and wisely within the law.

If you are such a person, I am more than willing to let you try it out without your risking one cent. That's how confident I am of the integrity and power of this most innovative technique.

Everything is explained in easy, step-by-step detail. No special experience or education is required. That's what makes it so *workable.*

START READING MINDS TO START A WHOLE NEW WONDERFUL LIFE!

Imagine what it would mean to you to have instant access to another person's thoughts whenever you wished.

You would have immediate, lifetime control over your family, friends, neighbors, business associates—even perfect strangers.

Like it or not, they would come under your direct personal domination. You would know what they were thinking at any given time. No one, not even the sharpest human, could hide a thing from you. Others might be fooled by their words. *But not you!*

You already know why. You would be able to read their inner-most, hidden thoughts. As clearly as if you were looking at the pages of a book set in type one inch high. Without their ever knowing about it! *Unless you, yourself, told them!*

Dealing with the opposite sex would be a pleasure. Imagine knowing in advance just what to expect from your date or mate. No more guesswork. No more wasted time. No more frustration. *For once, you are boss!*

And watch the money roll in. You could out-negotiate anyone in any business situation. "See-through" sales double-talk straight to the plain facts. No one gets the better of you. *Not when you can read minds!*

Whether you're quoting a price or asking for a raise, you'll never short-change yourself. You'll always know the other party's bottom line. *And get it!*

There's no "gamble" in gambling when you bet on a sure thing. You'll smile when you sit down to play poker or blackjack. When you know the other players' cards, *it is hard to lose!*

When a loved one is far away, you'll be at ease. Merely follow the technique to find out what he or she is feeling and doing. It's a lot *cheaper* than a long-distance telephone call!

This is just the beginning. Day-in and day-out for the rest of your life, you will enjoy using the technique in countless ways. To be happier, richer, more fulfilled.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE IT. YOU RISK NOTHING TO TRY IT!

If you still insist that "it's impossible", consider this: Have you ever said something to someone only to have him reply; "Funny, I was just thinking the very same thing"?

Coincidence? Maybe. Or perhaps you have *unconsciously* used the technique without even being aware of doing so. Now you can consciously engage in true thought communication with valuable knowledge like this:

- **The first key to mind-reading success.**
- **4 ways to reach crystal-clear reception.**
- **Why an angry person's mind is easy to read.**
- **How to secretly verify another's thoughts.**
- **How to read many minds at the same time.**

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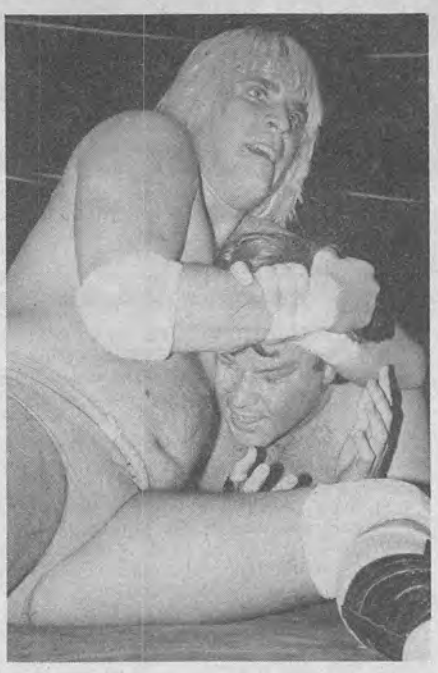
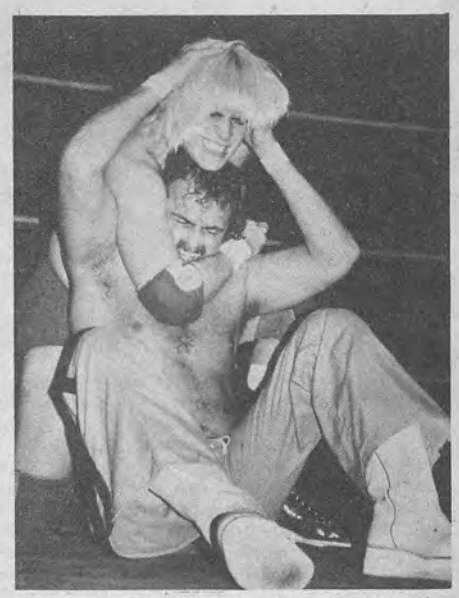
TOMMY RICH

(Continued from page 10)

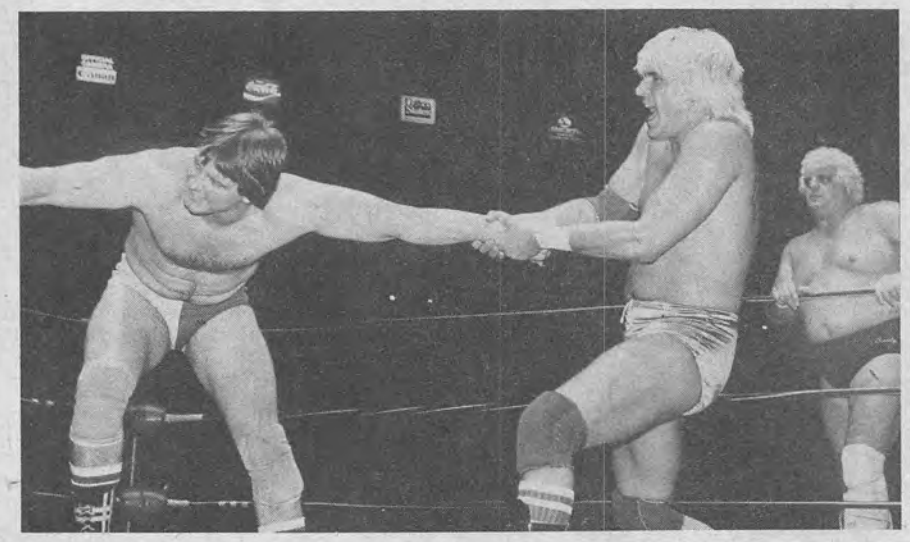
Mr. Wrestling II *("When I first met him, II was the most generous man I ever saw. I hear he's changed today, though")* . . . Started a steady climb in the ratings even as a rookie, and soon was honored with *Inside Wrestling* magazine's "Future Champion Trophy" *("It was my first major award, and it really helped spark my career")* . . . Received a series of matches against then-NWA World champion Harley Race, but the more experi-

(Continued on page 62)

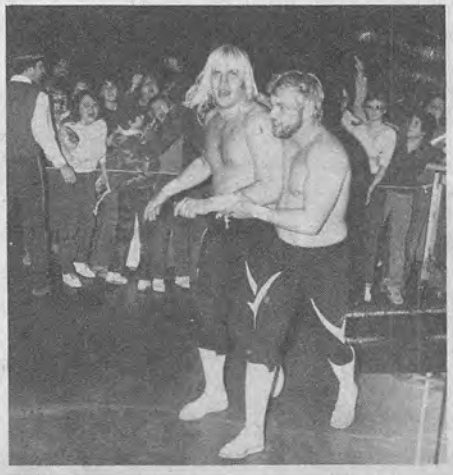




Rich has feuded with some of wrestling's toughest men: Ted DiBiase (left), Jake Roberts (above), and Buzz Sawyer (below) all get burned by Wildfire.



Rhodes pulls Roddy Piper to center ring during a tag team match (above). Rich's partner, Dusty Rhodes, looks on. Today, Tommy tag teams regularly with Eddie Gilbert (below), and the two are known as The Fabulous Ones in the Mid-Southern area. Every Dog has his day: Mad Dog Buzz Sawyer is about to be tamed with a chair (right). This feud raged throughout Georgia for more than a year.



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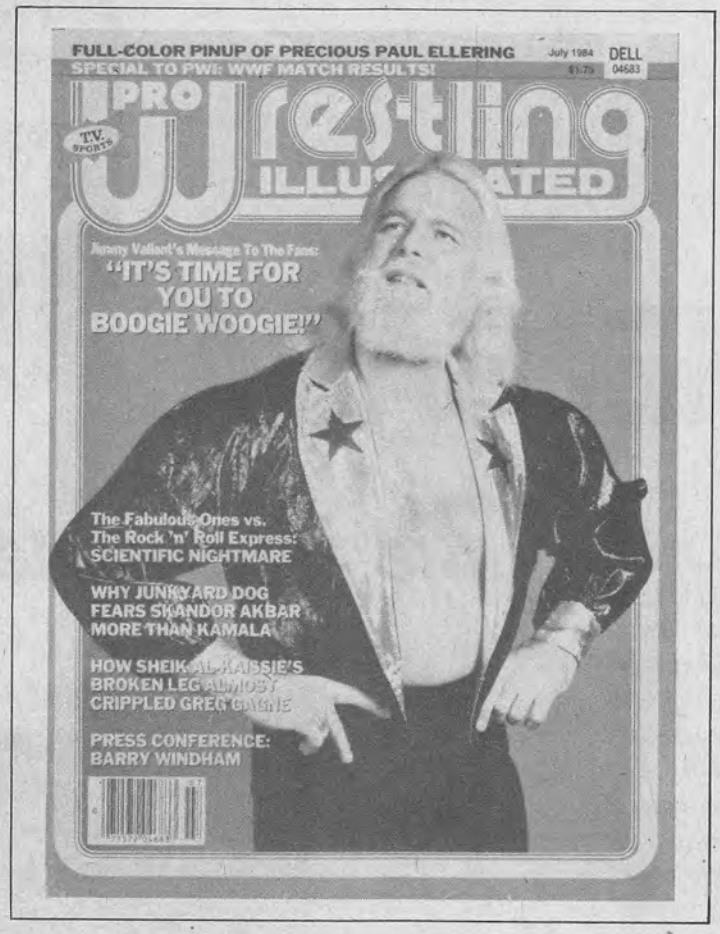

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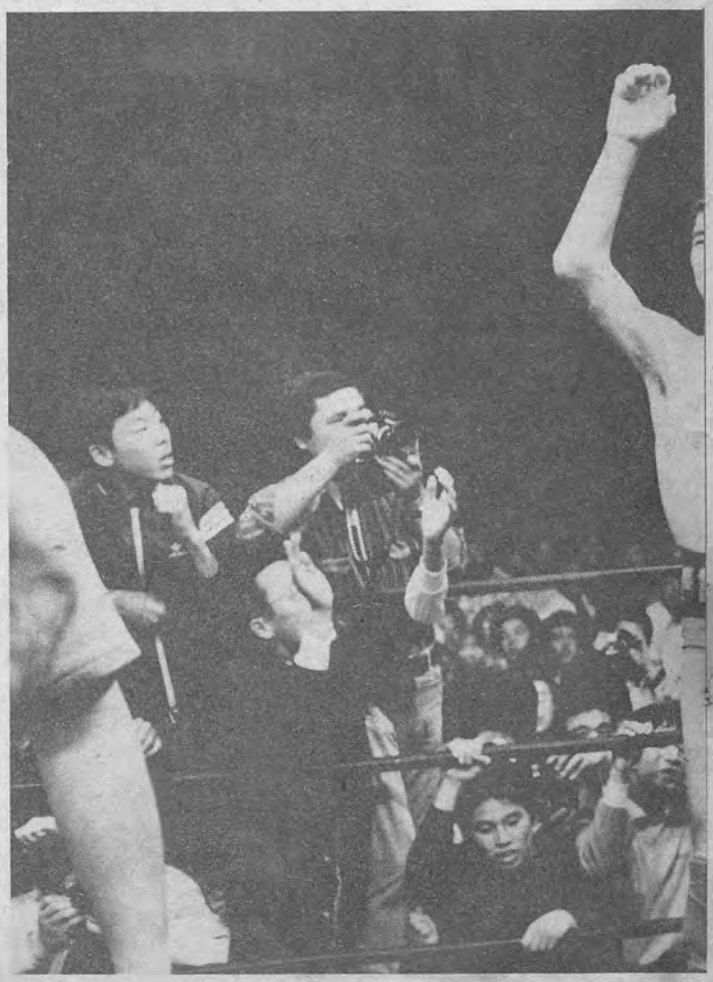
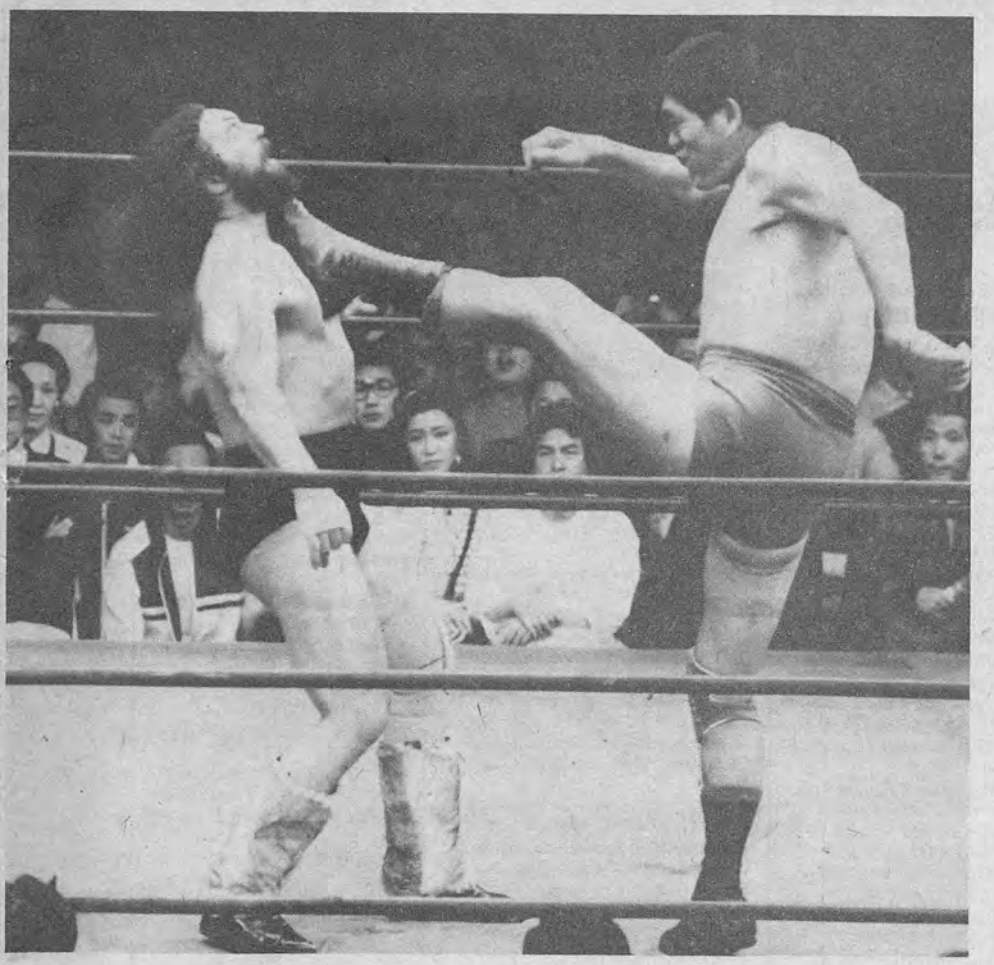
SHOHEI BABA:

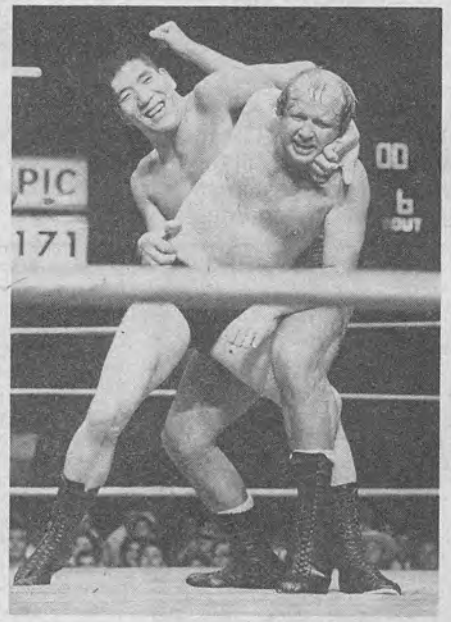
The Japanese Giant

A NATIVE OF Japan, Baba was advised early in his wrestling career by the great Japanese superstar Rikidozan *("Rikidozan was the best Japanese wrestler who ever lived, and he helped me a great deal when I was starting out")* . . . Made his American debut in Los Angeles in 1961 *("I have to admit I was a little nervous when I stepped off that plane in Los Angeles. It was like entering a whole new world")* . . . After a few months on the West Coast, Baba moved east and because of hostile crowds became a rulebreaker *("I always felt that the American fans were scared of my size when I first came to America; after all, it is not every wrestler who is seven feet tall and 315 pounds!")* . . . One of his first feuds in America was with Johnny Valentine *("His big maneuver is the so-called atomic skullcrusher, and even that did not hurt me")* . . . Had a major feud with Bruno Sammartino when the Living Legend held the WWF championship *("I think Sammartino felt I was out for nothing else but his title at that time . . . he was right!")* . . . Also

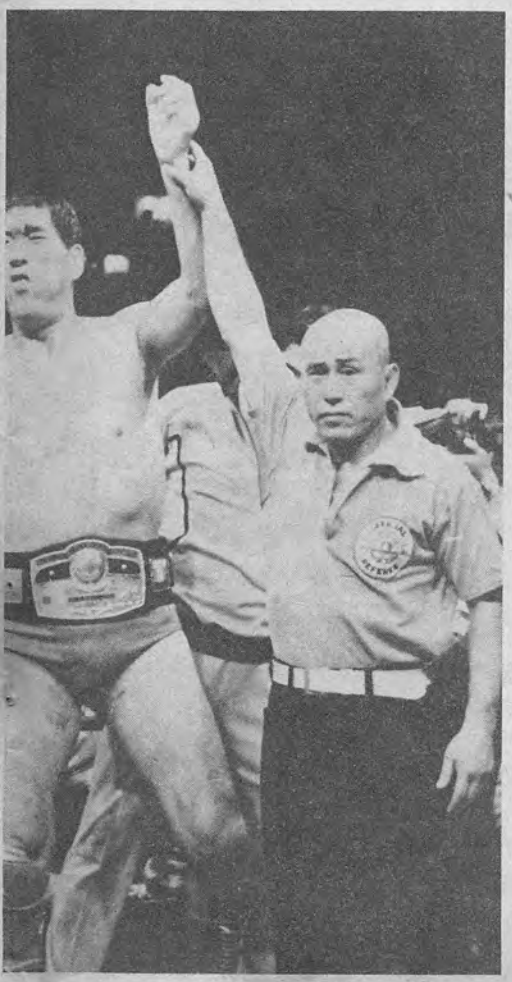
(Continued on page 50)

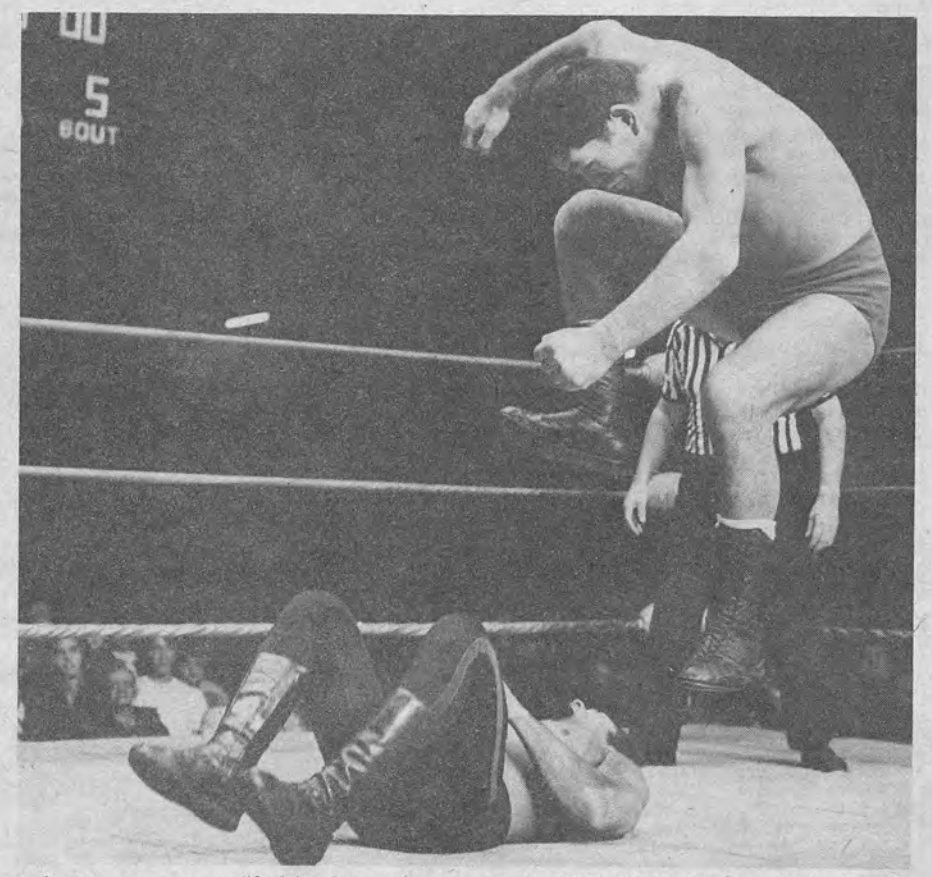






Opposite page: With a kick of his leg, Baba will escape Don Jardine's full-nelson. Left: Baba lifts his boot into Bruiser Brody's throat. Above: It is safe to assume that The Japanese Giant is having more fun than Dory Funk Jr.





Left: Baba has his arm lifted in victory after winning the NWA World title from Harley Race in 1980. He would lose the belt back to Race six days later. Shohei also held the title briefly in 1974, defeating Jack Brisco and losing it back to the same man a week later. Above: Baba crushes Bengali in Los Angeles.

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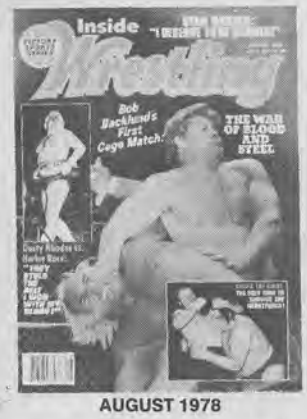

AUGUST 1978

April 1974/Stories include: Murdoch, Koloff, Sammartino, Strongbow.

July 1974/Stories include: Garea, Zbyszko, Heenan, Strongbow.

August 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Sheik, Albano, Ladd.

September 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Graham, Brooks, Bruiser.

November 1974/Stories include: Garvins, Mascaras, Sammartino, Graham.

April 1975/Stories include: Heenan, Grahams, Morales, Gagne.

June 1975/Stories include: Sammartino, Abdullah, LeDuc, Brisco.

August 1975/Stories include: Valentine, Garea, Rhodes, Sammartino.

September 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Funk, Valiants, Gagne.

October 1975/Stories include: Graham, Strongbow, Andersons, Von Erich.

January 1976/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Ladd, Putski.

February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Strongbow, Lewin, Brazil.

March 1976/Stories include: Ladd, Funk, Sheik, Robinson.

April 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Albano, Flair, Brisco.

June 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Bockwinkel, Flair, Mascaras.

August 1976/Stories include: Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.

September 1976/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.

October 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Race, Johnson, Jones.

November 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Funk, Sammartino.

December 1976/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.

January 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.

May 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Sheik, Race.

July 1977/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, LeDuc, Patera.

August 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.

September 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.

October 1977/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.

November 1977/Stories include: Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.

December 1977/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Johnson, Maivia.

February 1978/Stories include: Flair, Andre, Koloff, Johnson.

March 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.

April 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.

May 1978/Stories include: Race, Putski, Von Erich, Andre.

August 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Andre, Hansen.

October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Rhodes, McDaniel.

November 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, Flair, Steamboat.

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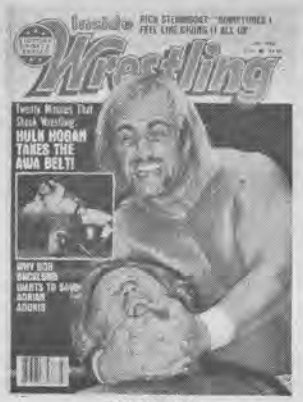

JULY 1982

January 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.

February 1979/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.

April 1979/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.

May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Rhodes, Backlund, Heenan.

June 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.

July 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.

August 1979/Stories include: Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.

September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.

October 1979/Stories include: Rich, Rhodes, Backlund, Putski.

February 1980/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.

March 1980/Stories include: Flair, Rich, Funk, Duncum.

April 1980/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.

May 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.

June 1980/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.

July 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Von Erich, Superstar, Blassie.

August 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.

September 1980/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.

November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.

January 1981/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.

February 1981/Stories include: Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson.

April 1981/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.

May 1981/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.

June 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.

September 1981/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.

January 1982/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdink.

February 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.

March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.

April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.

June 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.

July 1982/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.

August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.

September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.

October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.

December 1982/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.

February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.

March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.

April 1983/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.

May 1983/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.

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September 1983/Stories include: Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.

October 1983/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.

November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.

December 1983/Stories include: Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.

January 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Rich, Superstar, Piper.

February 1984/Stories include: Abdullah, Sawyers, Valiant, Von Erich.

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April 1984/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.

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June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.

July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.

August 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.

September 1984/Stories include: Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.

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December 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, McDaniel, Blackjacks.

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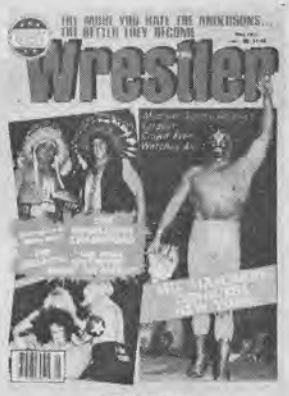

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September 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Grahams, Andre, Mascaras.

October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Backlund, McDaniel, Race.

November 1978/Stories include: Flair, Andre, Ladd, Graham.

December 1978/Stories include: Brisco, Mulligan, Andre, Blanchard.

February 1979/Stories include: Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.

March 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Backlund, Rhodes, Maivia.

May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race..

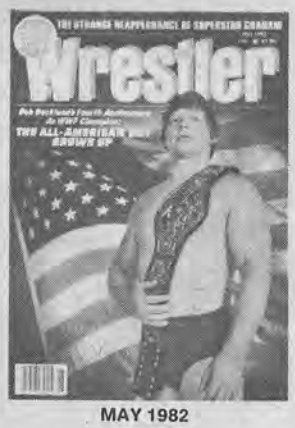
July 1979/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Sammartino, Andre.

August 1979/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Patera, Stevens, Superstar.

September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Graham, Piper, Mascaras.

October 1979/Stories include: Flair, Valentine, Santana, Muraco.

December 1979/Stories include: Andre, Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras.



MAY 1982

January 1980/Stories include: Race, Backlund, Snuka, Brisco.

February 1980/Stories include: Andre, Flair, DiBiase, Superstar.

March 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Andre.

April 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, DiBiase, Youngblood, Wrestling II.

May 1980/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Bockwinkel, Patera.

June 1980/Stories include: Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.

August 1980/Stories include: Valentine, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Albano.

September 1980/Stories include: Ladd, Patera, Steamboat, Gagne.

October 1980/Stories include: Patera, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Morales.

November 1980/Stories include: Rich, Hogan, Snuka, Super Destroyers.

January 1981/Stories include: Valentine, Rhodes, Patera, Von Erich.

February 1981/Stories include: Zbyszko, Patera, Iron Sheik, Wrestling II.

May 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, DiBiase, Moondogs.

June 1981/Stories include: Sammartino, Piper, Rich, Martel.

July 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Flair, Atlas.

August 1981/Stories include: DiBiase, Slaughter, Martel, Idol.

October 1981/Stories include: Funks, Rhodes, Race, Sullivan.

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March 1982/Stories include: Slaughter, Albano, Flair, Race.

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June 1982/Stories include: Steamboat, Reed, Albano, Piper.

July 1982/Stories include: Rich, Sawyer, Flair, Steamboat.

August 1982/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Mulligans, Piper.

September 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.

October 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

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January 1983/Stories include: Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.

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December 1983/Stories include: Mascaras, Superstar, Von Erich, Zbyszko.

January 1984/Stories include: Valentine, Hogan, Von Erich, Road Warriors.

February 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Hogan, Rich, Andre.

March 1984/Stories include: Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.

April 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.

May 1984/Stories include: Windham, Brody, Road Warriors, Junkyard Dog.

June 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Billy Jack, Flair, Armstrong.

July 1984/Stories include: Rich, Billy Jack, Valiant, Von Erich.

August 1984/Stories include: Garvin, Sullivan, Freebirds, Street.

September 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Piper, Steamboat, Billy Jack.

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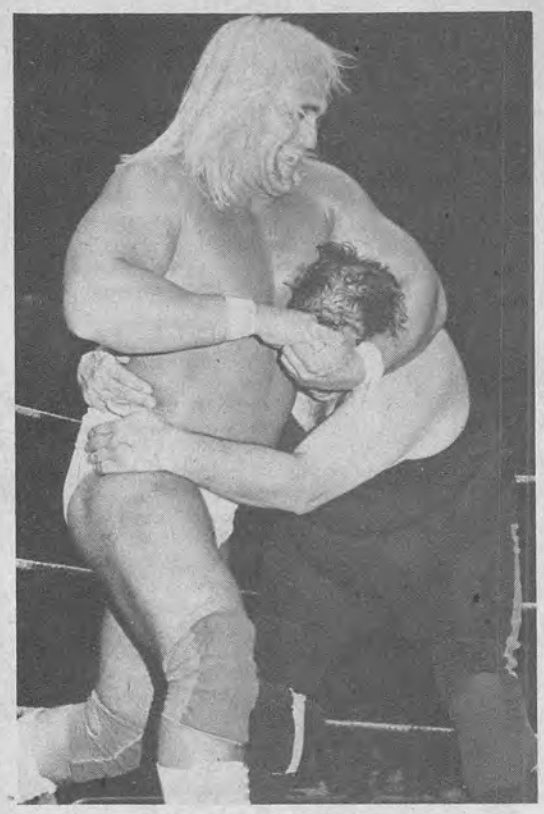
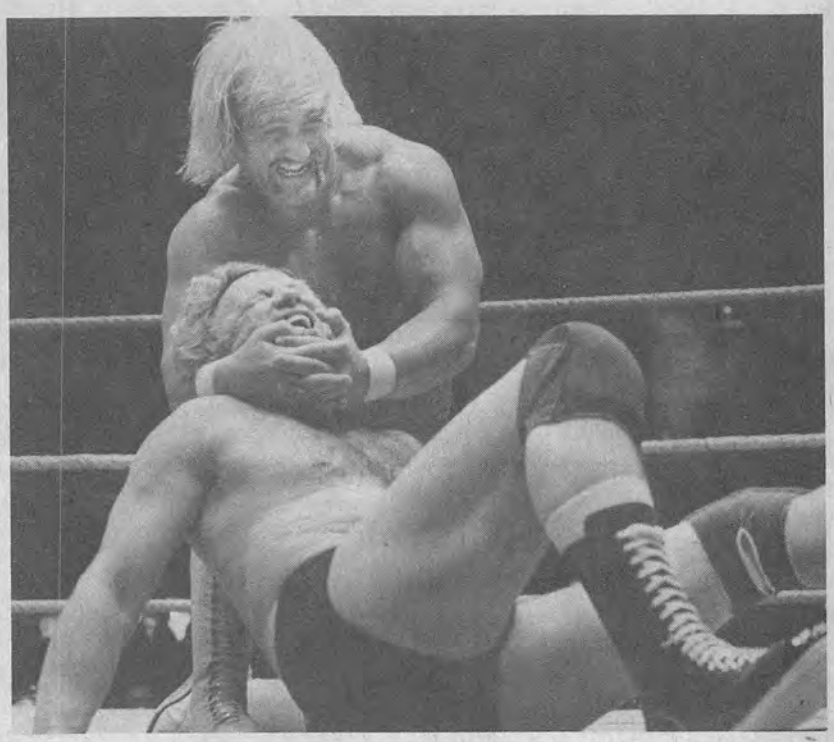
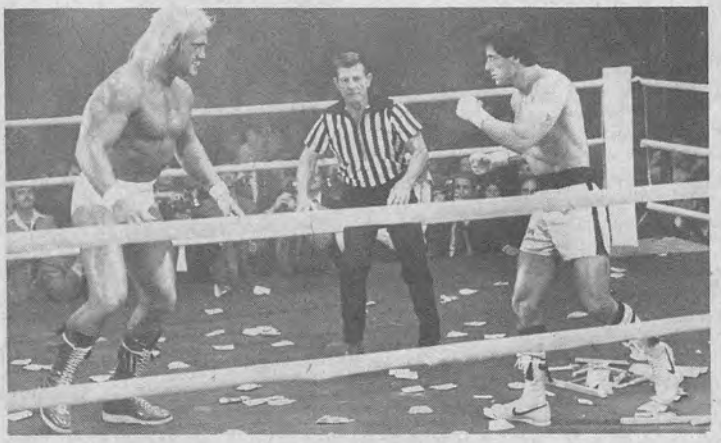




Left: A battle of super heavyweights pits Hogan against Gorilla Monsoon. Above: Title matches against then-AWA champ Nick Bockwinkel were a source of frustration for the Hulk. Below left: Hogan is enjoying his arm-wrestling match with Jesse Ventura. Below right: Thunderlips vs. Rocky Balboa, in Rocky III.



HULK HOGAN: *The Hulkster*

During his first stint in the WWF, Hogan manhandles Pat Patterson.

A ONE-TIME bodybuilder who was discovered on Venice Beach in California playing volleyball *("Fred Blassie was on vacation there and he saw my size, strength, and meanness and signed me to a contract")* . . . At 6'8" tall and weighing more than 300 pounds, he overpowered almost all of the men he faced during his rookie year *("I didn't really follow the rules back then. I just sort of pounded every*

(Continued on page 20)

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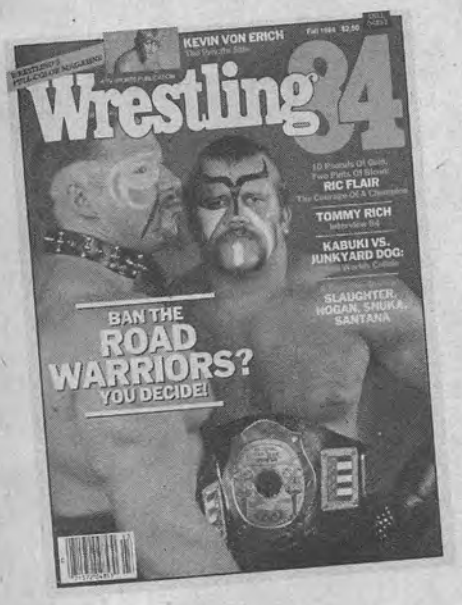

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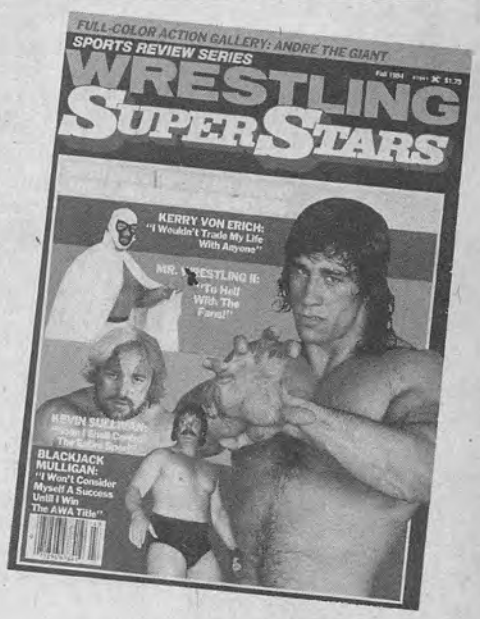

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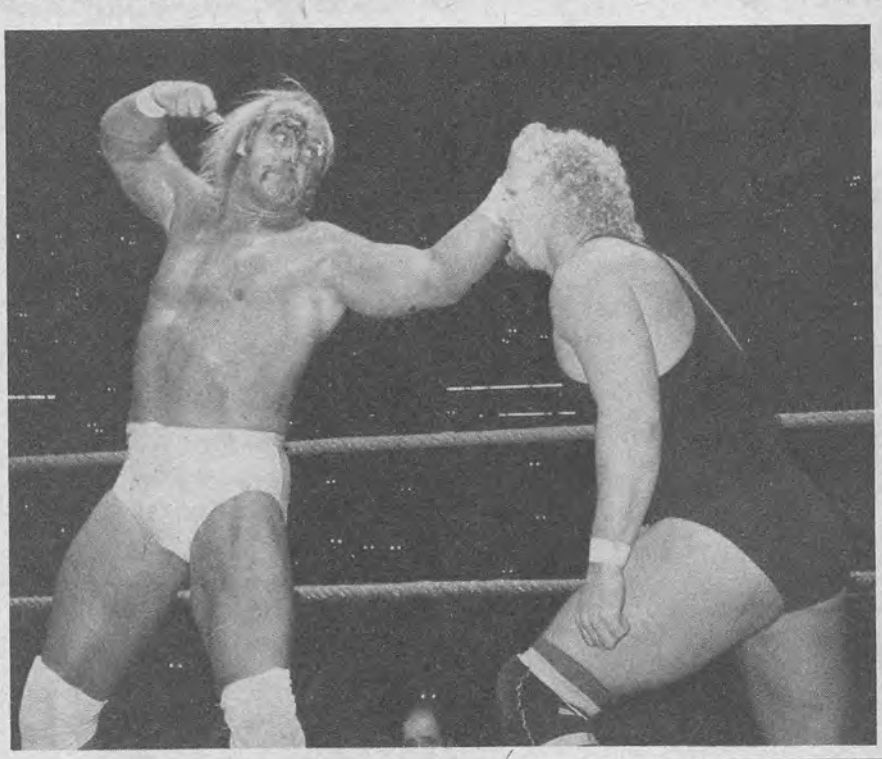
HULK HOGAN

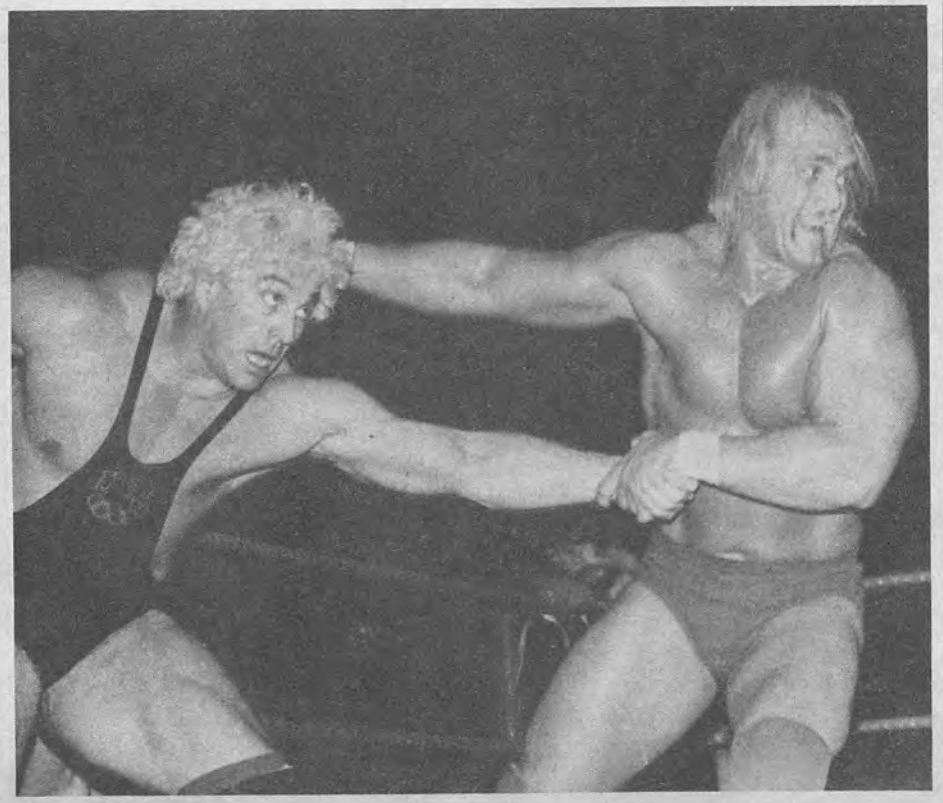
(Continued from page 18)

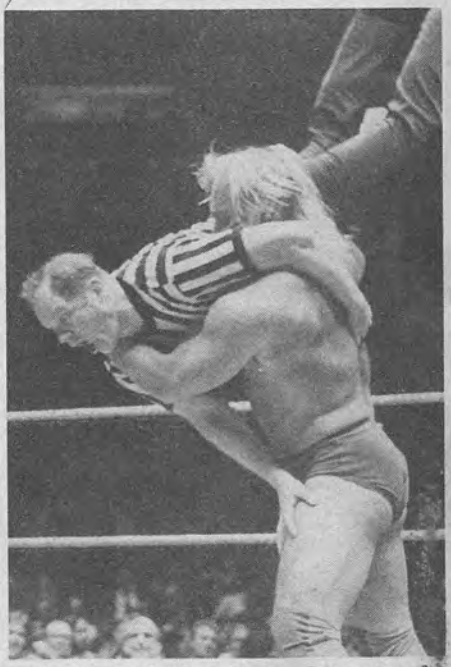
opponent until he stopped moving") . . . Became one of the most hated men in the sport, and the fans called for either then-WWF champion Bob Backlund or Andre the Giant to stop his reign of terror *("I had a brutal series of matches with Andre, but getting a title shot against Backlund was much harder")* . . . Became disgusted at not getting a WWF title shot, and decided to take a short working vacation in Japan *("I really got my head together there, while breaking the heads of a few Japanese wrestlers in the process")* . . . On his return to the WWF, finally received a title shot against Backlund, in New Haven, Connecticut *("I was all psyched up for a title shot in Madison Square Garden, but Blassie screwed up the contracts, and the match was held in New Haven. I just couldn't get psyched enough in that match")* . . . Left Blassie and the WWF to wrestle in the AWA, where he immediately became a fan favorite *("I know the fans were expect-*

(Continued on page 63)



Above: Hogan needs to use all of his considerable strength to whip Elijah Akeem into the turnbuckles. Right: The Hulk's feud with David Shultz has moved from the AWA to the WWF.





Left: Hogan's battles with Ken Patera were for the unofficial title of "Wrestling's Strongest Man." Above: The Hulk has come a long way since the days when he was bodyslamming referees.

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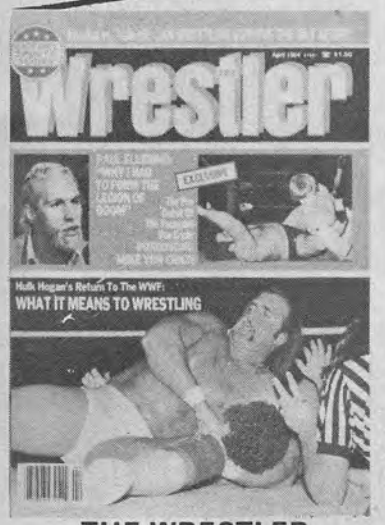

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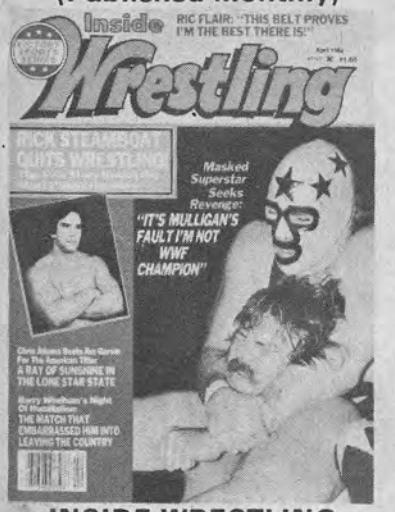

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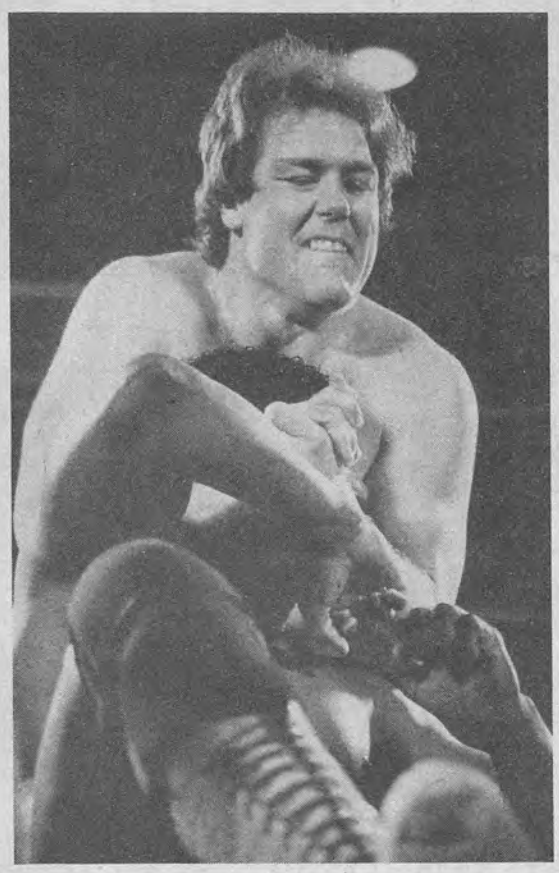
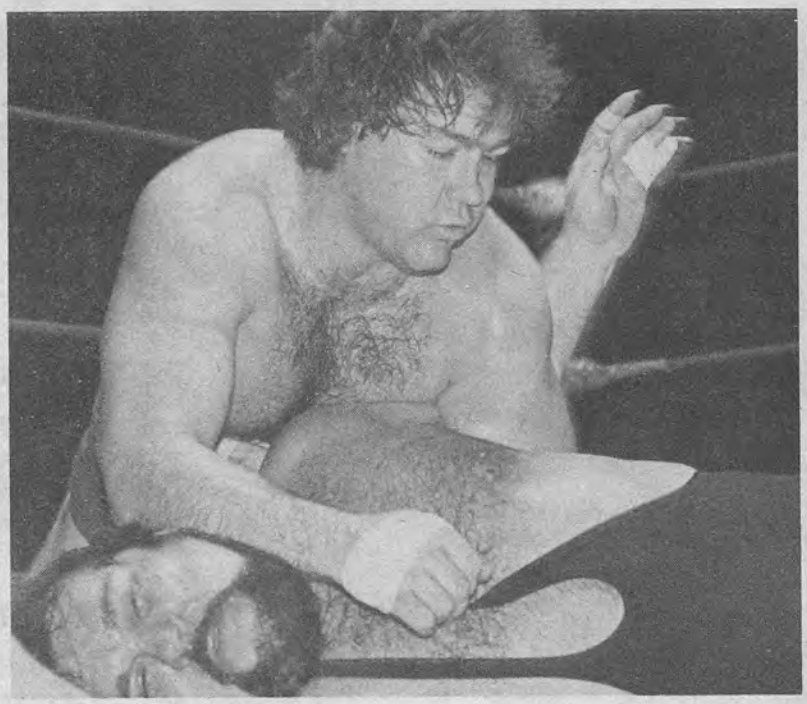
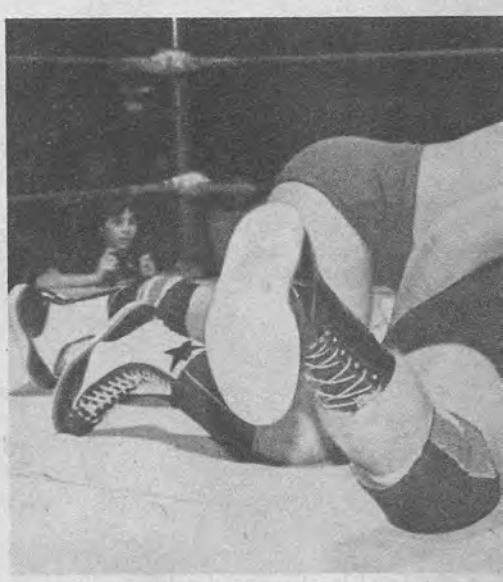




Blanchard shows his agressive style against Brickhouse Brown (left), Buzz Tyler (above), Carlos Colon (top right), Avalanche Tyler (right), and Sweet Brown Sugar (bottom left).



TULLY BLANCHARD:

AFTER EARNING A reputation as one of the most fearsome wrestlers in the Southwest, Blanchard moved to the Mid-Atlantic area *("I'm proud of my reputation, as I'm proud of the batterings I've given the guys that made my reputation")* . . . Son of rulebreaker Joe Blanchard *("Daddy taught me all he knew, and then I figured out some of the rougher stuff for myself")* . . . Most famous as part of the championship tag team with Gino Hernandez *("Gino is a fun-loving guy, but when he's in the ring, he's all business, just like me")* . . . As Southwest tag team champions, he and Hernandez terrorized the area *("You're only as good as how much you can make people afraid of you")* . . . His tactics have been criticized by top wrestlers all over the world *("Losers always complain about losing")* . . . His most fearsome weapon is the flying elbowsmash *("I don't care what happens to other guy, as long as I get the job done")* . . . Currently the NWA TV champion, a title he takes very seriously *("I'm*

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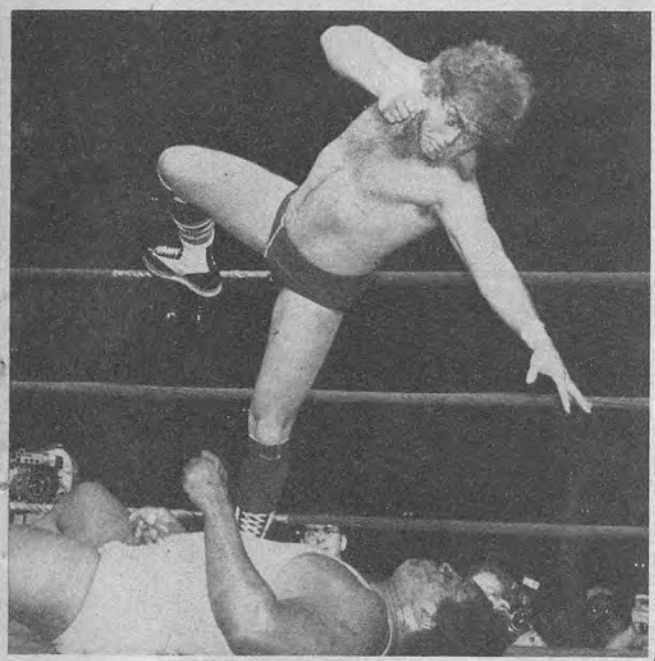
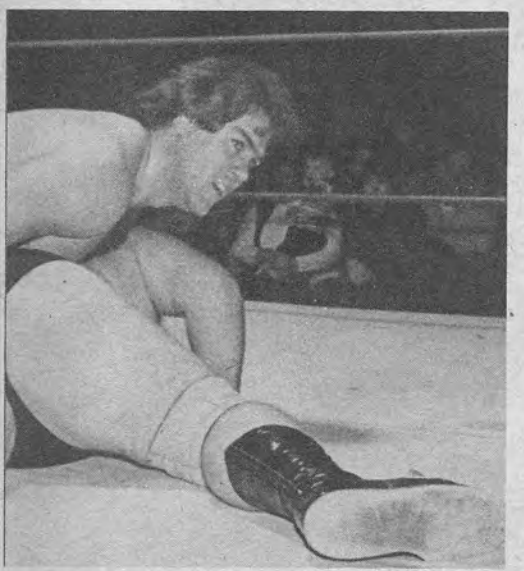
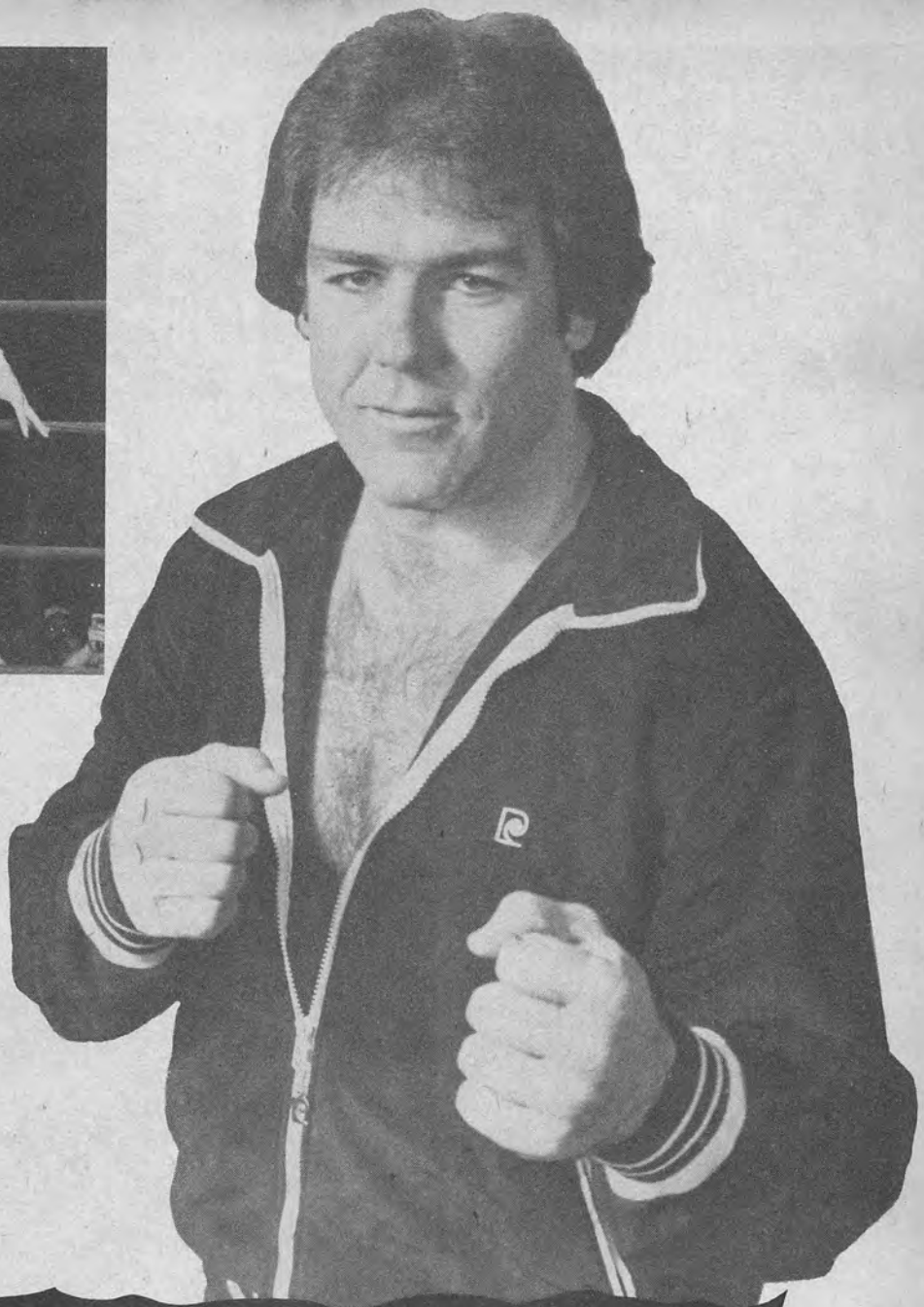
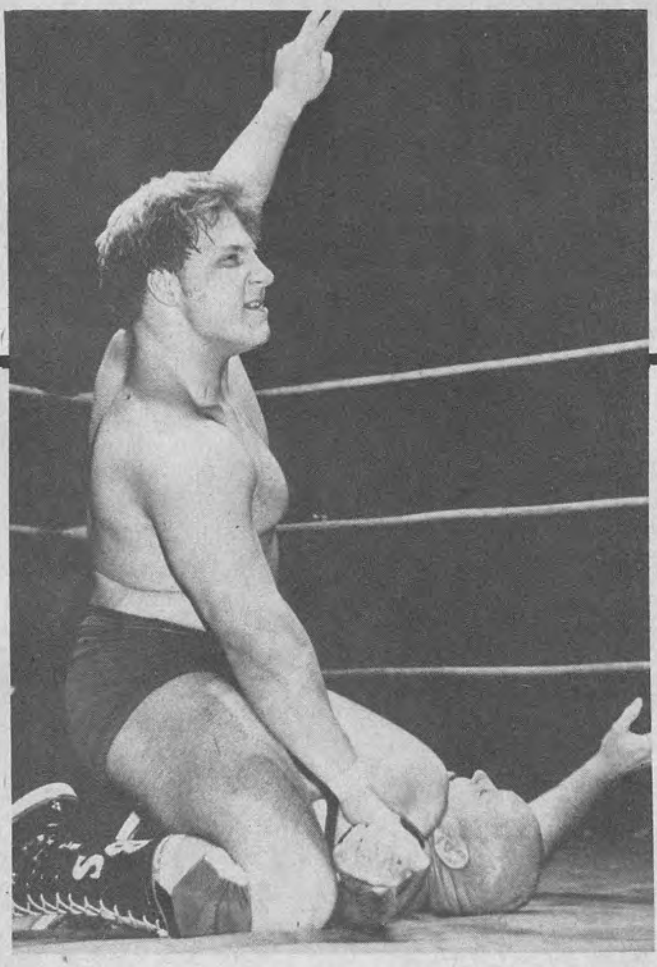


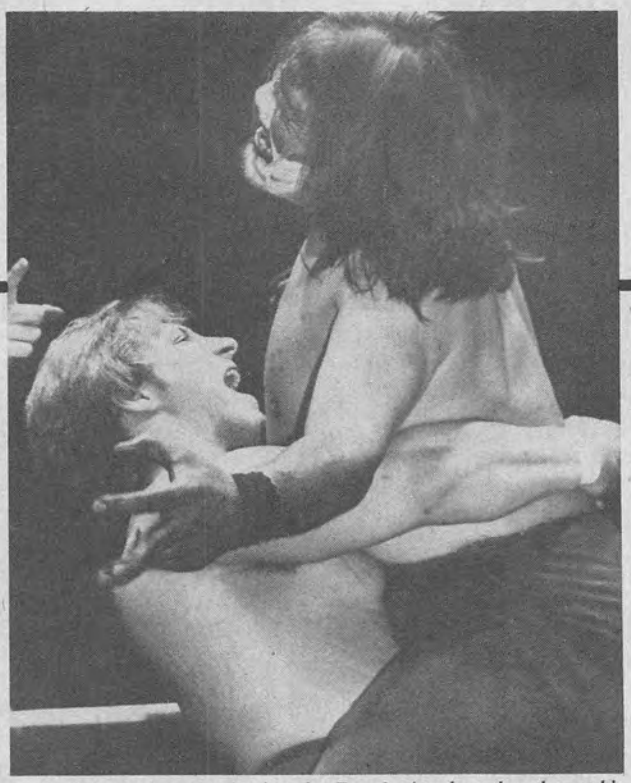




Mid-Atlantic Playboy

His strength almost completely drained, Spike Huber is dependent on the referee to free him from Blanchard's chokehold.

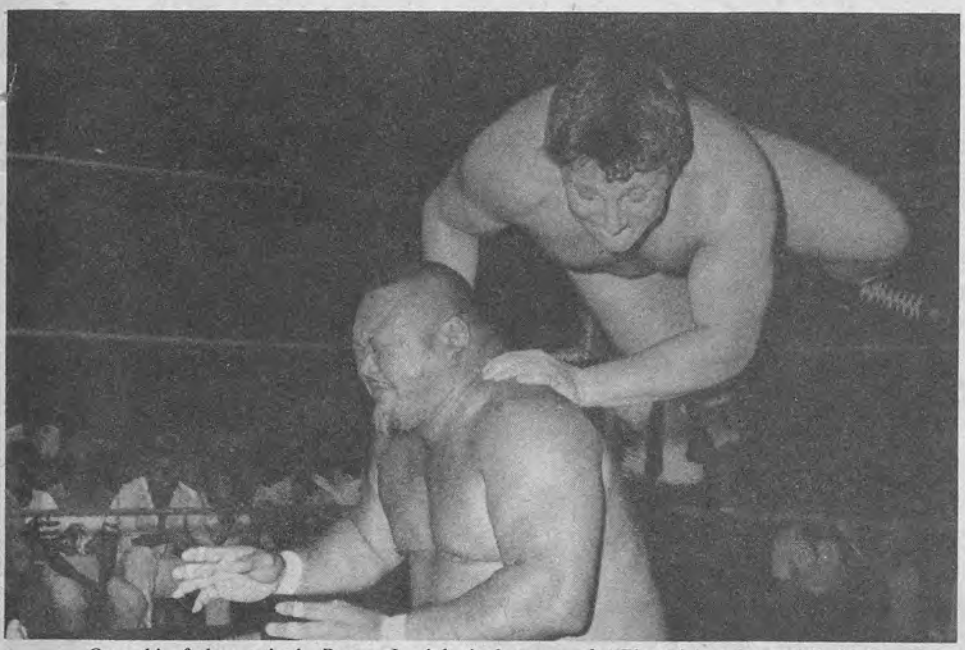




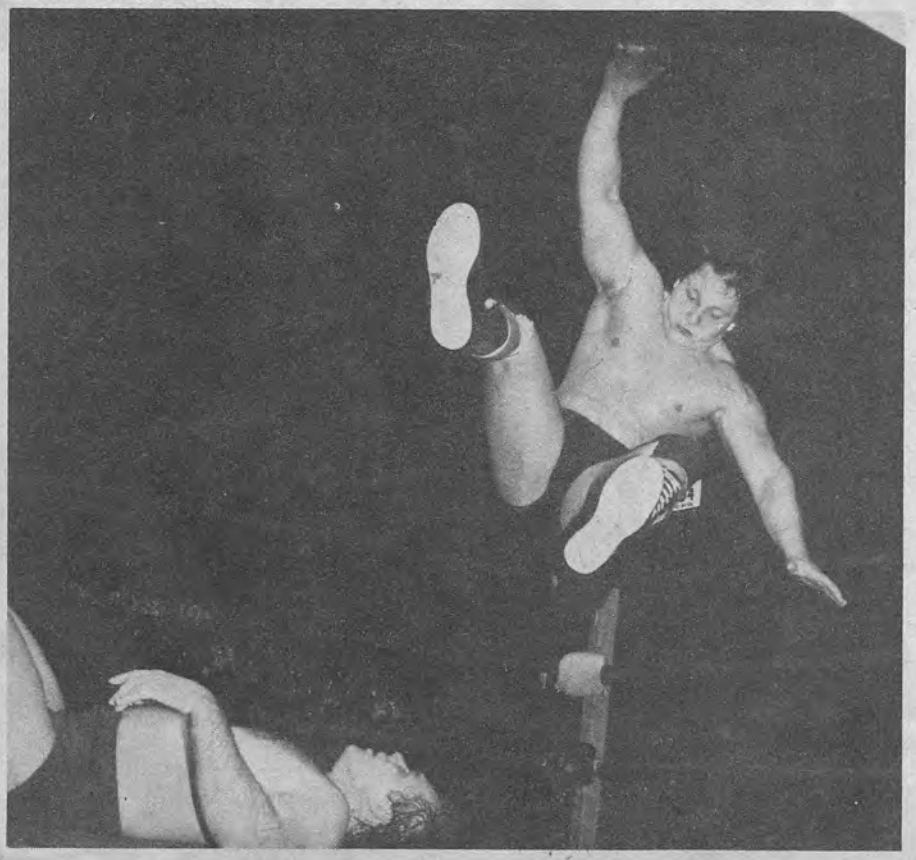
Left: Sammartino, dominating the French Angel, makes the rookie mistake of playing to the fans. Above: Bruno crushes Kabuki with a bearhug, a hold he learned from his father. Below: Losing large amounts of blood, Bruno courageously battles Eddy Mansfield.

BRUNO SAMMARTINO JR.:

The Legend Lives On



Once his father retired, Bruno Jr. inherited many of "The Living Legend's" feuds. Above: Sammartino drives his knee into the back of Prof. Toru Tanaka. Below: Bruno leaps toward the downed Larry Zbyszko.



THE SON OF two-time former WWF champion Bruno Sammartino *("It's a great thing to be the son of Bruno Sammartino, but being the son of a famous man can be tough")* . . . Had to deal with his father's enemies as well as his own *("There are a lot of people who are still jealous of my father's success")* . . . Was under a lot of pressure early in his career *("Everyone was curious, I could understand that")* . . . Made his professional debut against The Mexican Angel in Puerto Rico *("I was very nervous, but Dad was there at ringside and gave me the support I needed")* . . . Likes to wrestle primarily in singles matches *("I like to know that win or lose, it was my doing")* . . . Stands 5'10", weighs 230 pounds, and has 19-inch biceps, a 50-inch chest, and 26-inch thighs *("I quit my high school football and track*

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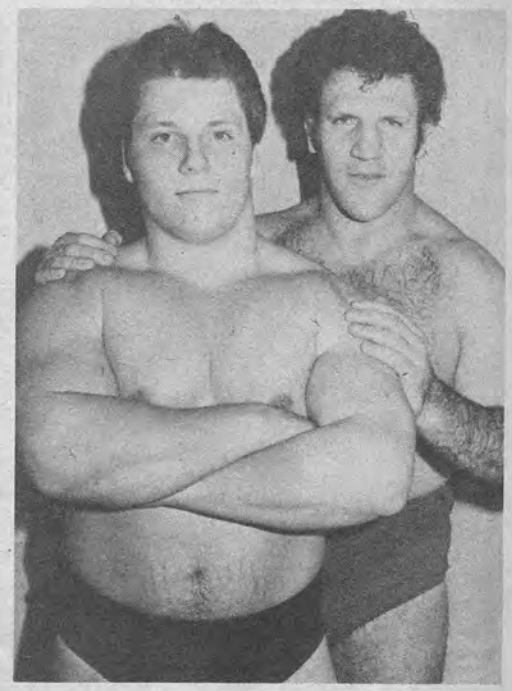
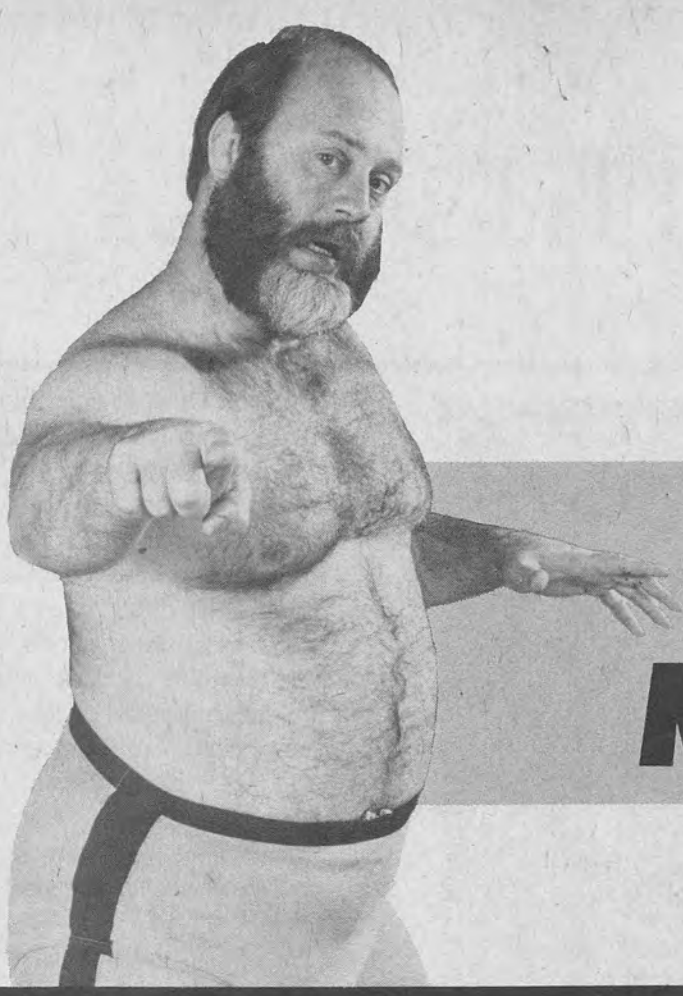
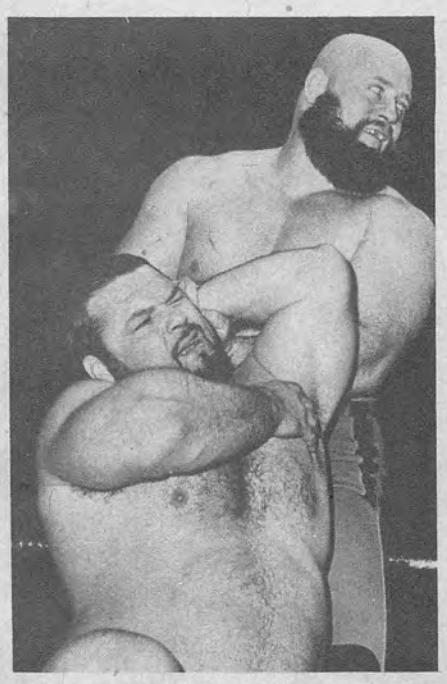


Bruno Sammartino Jr. has always had his father standing behind him.

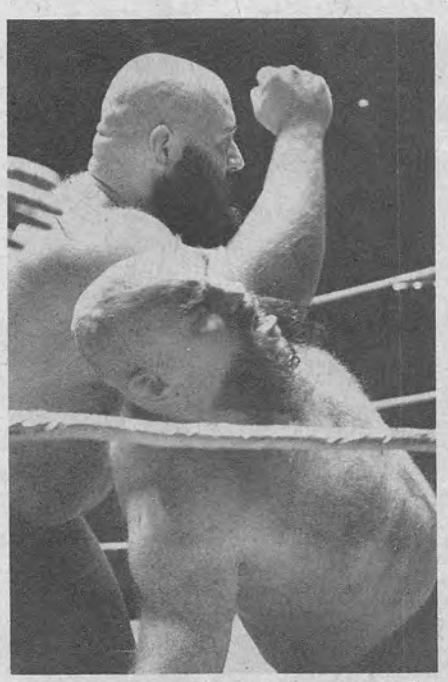


BUGSY McGRAW:

Still Crazy After All These



Eight years ago, Bugsy McGraw battles Ivan Putski. At the time, Bugsy was not well-liked by the fans.



McGraw's meaty elbow finds its mark: Ox Baker's neck. By 1980, Bugsy had become one of fans' favorites.

Once McGraw gets a firm hold on an opponent, it's nearly impossible to break free, as Jim Garvin finds out.

ONCE WORKED AS a prison guard in California *("A pretty tough job, and a job that makes you tough whether you want to be or not")* . . . Was discovered by Capt. Lou Albano, who introduced him to the world of professional wrestling *("I used to watch on television, but I never thought I could be a wrestler myself until the Captain said I could")* . . . Wrestled part-time in California as The Brute *("Why not?")* . . . Was brought to the WWF and wrestled Bruno Sammartino for the WWF heavyweight

Years

championship, which gave him national exposure *("I couldn't believe all the mail I got after those matches were publicized in the magazines!")* . . . Wrestled in Texas and Tennessee *("Nice places to visit, but I wouldn't want to live there all the time")* . . . One of his favorite maneuvers is the flying elbowsmash *("It's great! It's the same feeling I get when I'm flying in an airplane or riding on a rollercoaster")* . . . Idolizes Curly of the Three Stooges *("Now there's a man who had it all together")* . . . Also idolizes President Harry Truman *("Habadasher Harry was the snappiest dresser we ever had in the White House, and*

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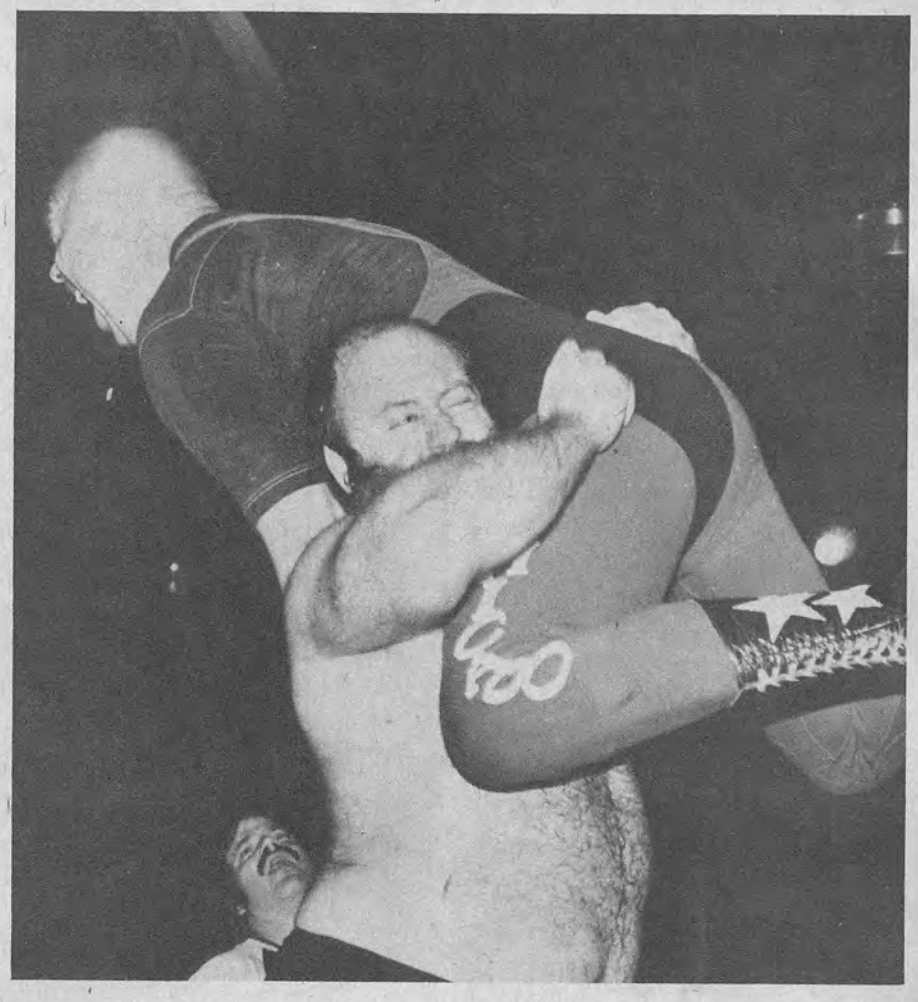

McGraw decides the fate of Gary Hart, one of the few men for whom he has ever shown open hatred (above). Men like The Assassin (below) just annoy Bugsy, but he doesn't hate them. Few men in this sport have more fun doing what they do than Bugsy McGraw.

JIMMY VALIANT:

The Boogie Woogie Man

KNOWN AS the "Boogie Woogie Man," he has strutted and danced his way into the hearts of the Mid-Atlantic wrestling fans, and is truly one of the most popular men in the entire sport *("That's right, daddy, all the fans been lining up behind the Boogie Woogie Man, and we're all ready to get down and get to business!")* . . . His most hated opponent is Kabuki *("I don't like that guy at all, no, not at all, he's got no boogie woogie in his soul!")* . . . Was once the victim of Kabuki's green fog and had to wear goggles into the ring for several weeks *("That Kabuki is a sneaky, nasty, mean son of a gun, and you've got to have eyes in the back of your head to wrestle that monster!")* . . . Lost a loser leave town match to Kabuki and had to spend several months away from the Mid-Atlantic area

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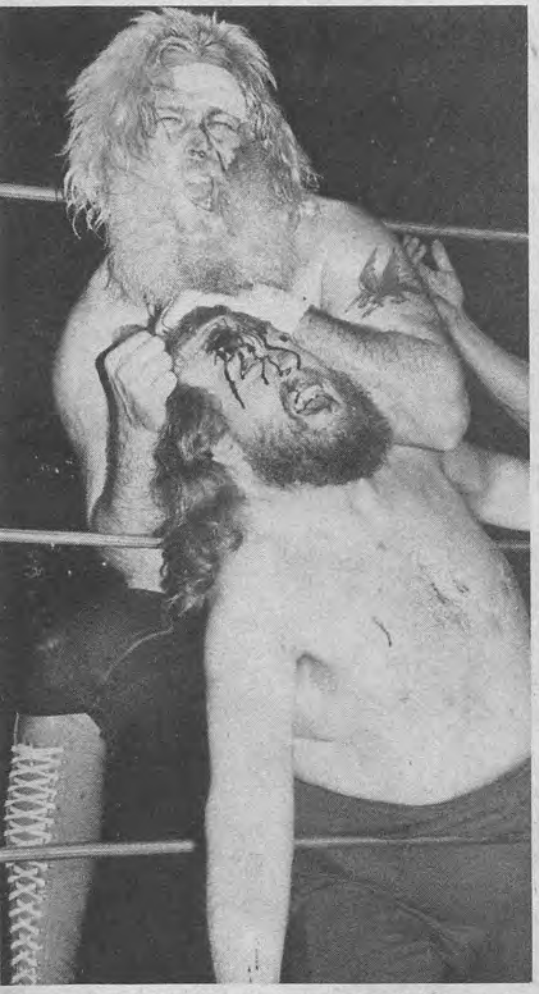
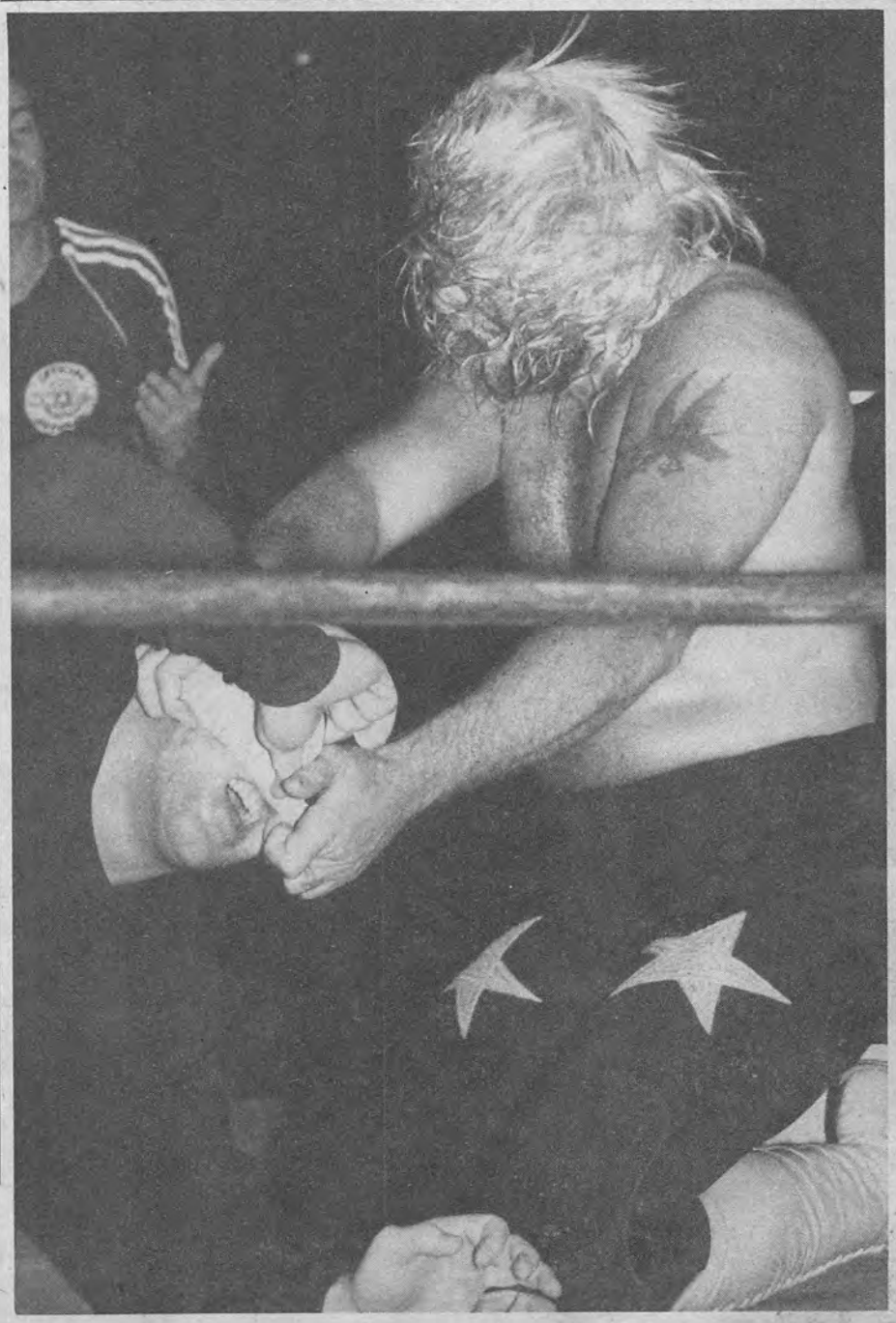
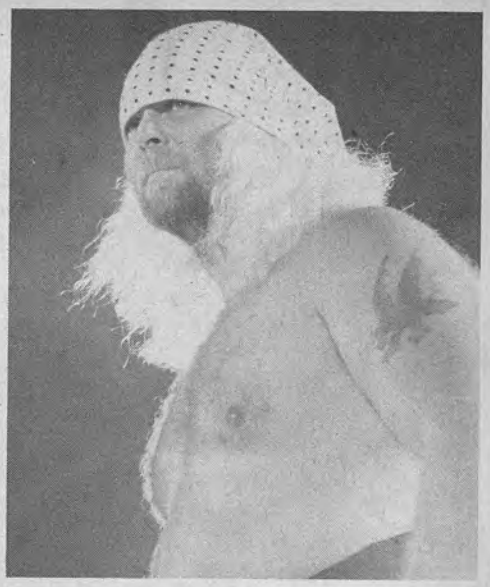
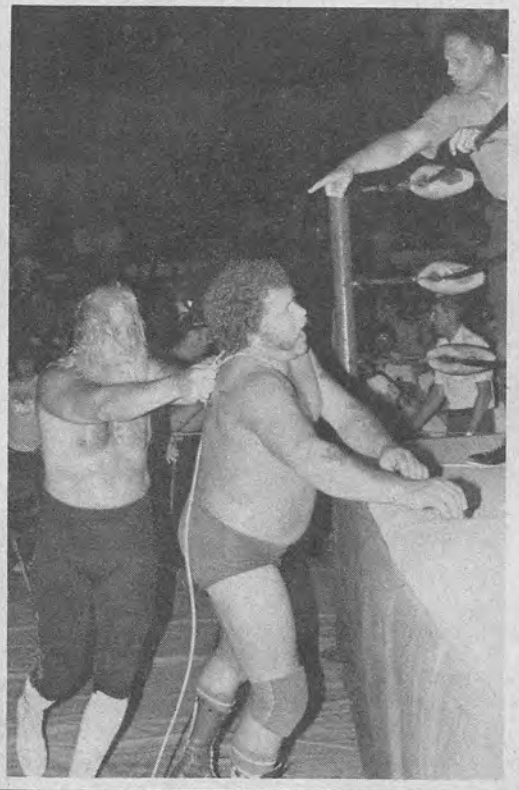


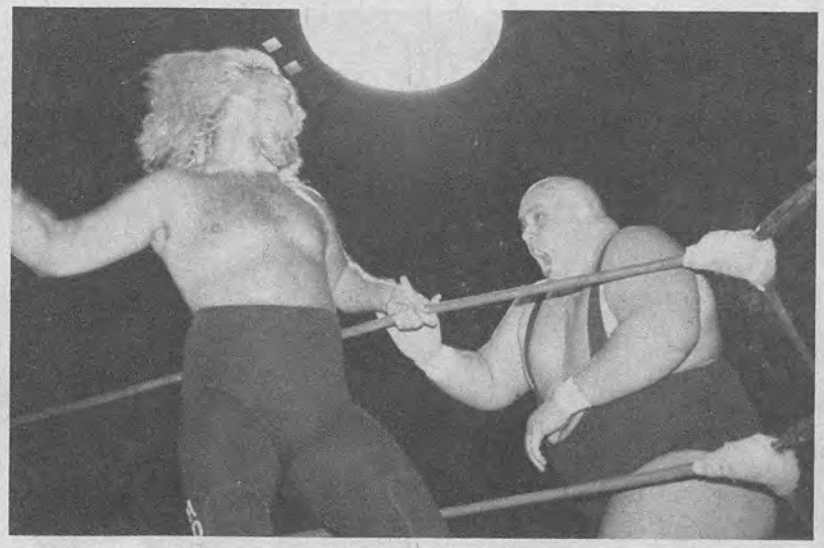


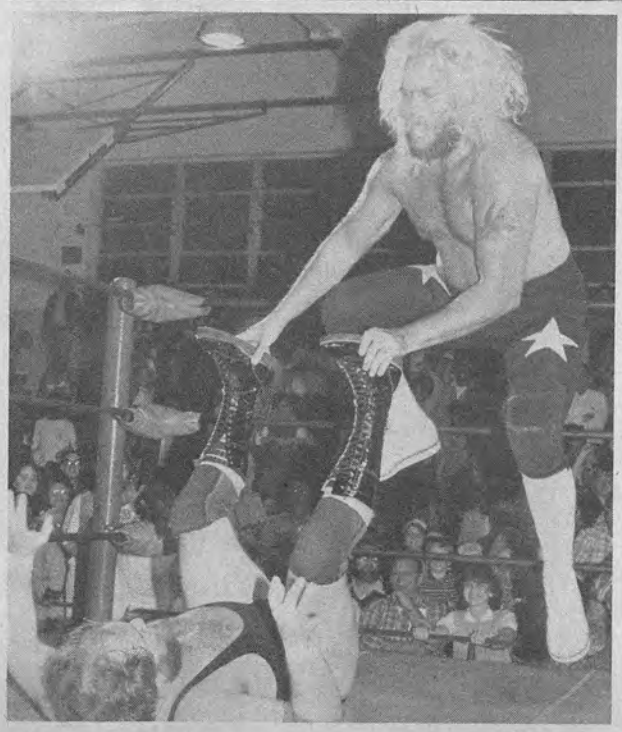
Though loved by the fans, Jimmy Valiant can be as vicious as any wrestler. Right: Valiant tries to remove The Assassin's mask. Above: Valiant tries to remove Sir Oliver Humperdink's hair.



Left: Having knocked out Kabuki with a chair, Valiant goes after Kabuki's manager, Gary Hart. Above: "The Boogie Woogie Man" in a quiet moment, studying an opponent before a match.



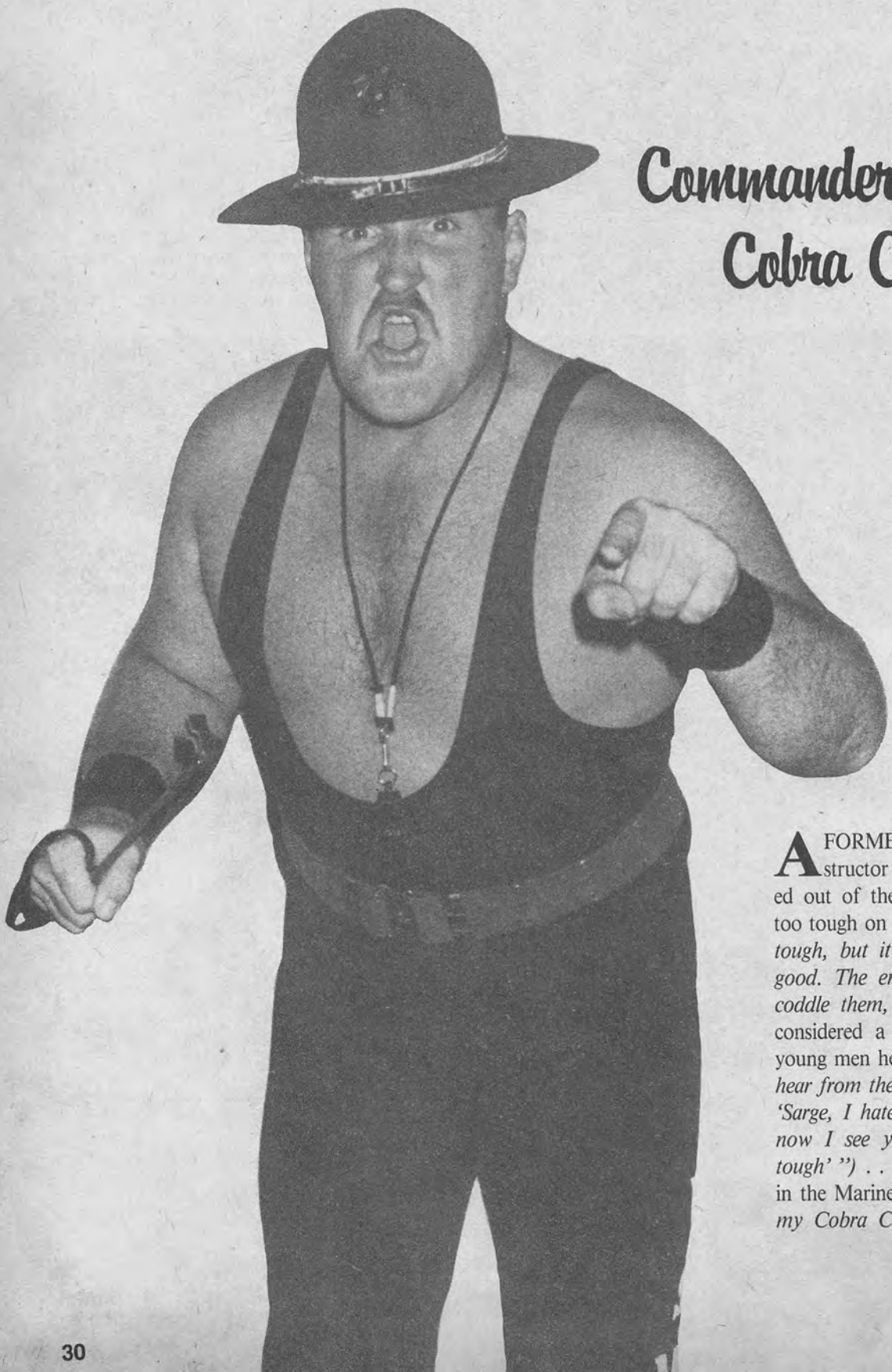




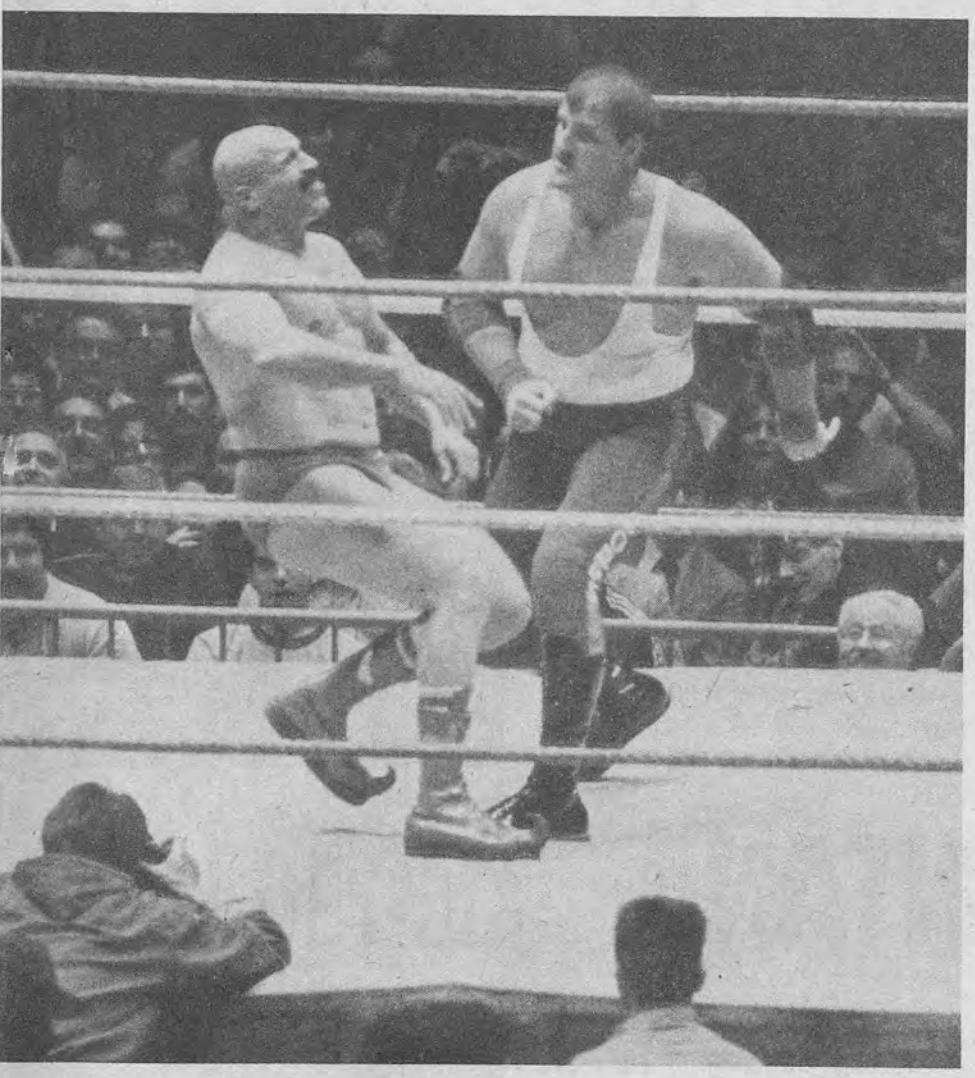
Above left: Valiant lassos former NWA champion Harley Race. Above: King Kong Bundy sees Jimmy's right hand coming, but he can't stop it. Bottom left: Valiant asks the fans to decide the fate of Jimmy Hart and Jerry Lawler. Left: Don Kernodle is completely vulnerable to the leaping Boogie Woogie Man.

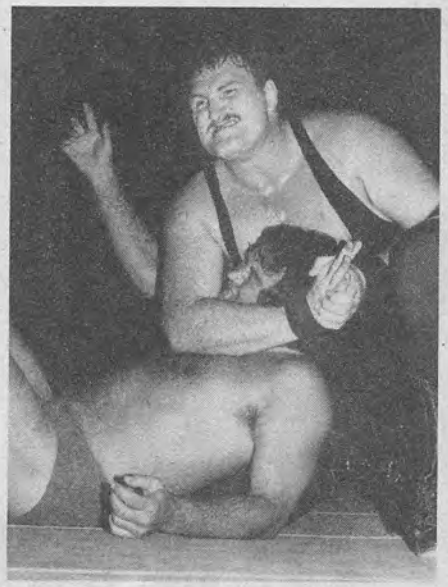
SGT. SLAUGHTER:

Commander Of The Cobra Corps



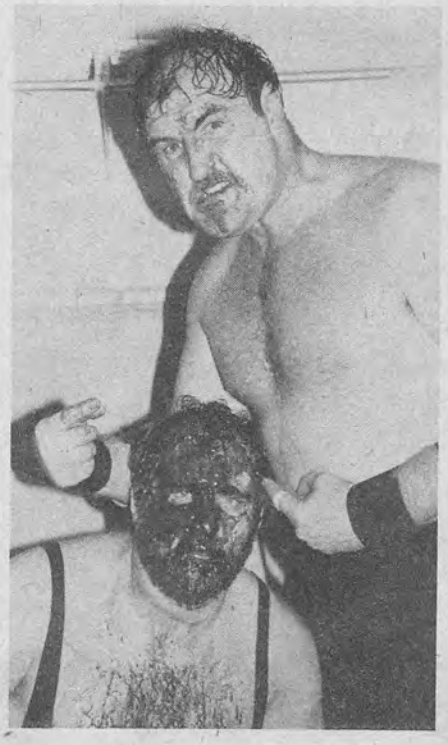
A FORMER MARINE drill instructor who was allegedly booted out of the corps because of being too tough on the recruits *("Yeah I was tough, but it was for the boys' own good. The enemy ain't gonna molly-coddle them, are they?")* . . . Is still considered a legend by many of the young men he trained in the Corps *("I hear from them all the time. They say, 'Sarge, I hated you in the Corps, but now I see you were right to be so tough' ")* . . . Claims to still miss life in the Marines *("That's why I formed my Cobra Corps, so I could still be*





Above: Jack Brisco's chin is no match for the power of the sergeant. Below: "If you think my face is bad, look at his!": Slaughter and Don Kerndodle, after losing the NWA tag team title to Rick Steamboat and Jay Youngblood in March 1983.

Above: Slaughter intercepts the charging Iron Sheik with a powerful forearm smash. Right: The Slaughter-Blackjack Mulligan match was a battle of ex-Marines.



involved with molding the lives of some good young men") . . . Once he left the Corps, the decision to enter pro wrestling seemed like a natural one *("There are maggots in trunks, as well as maggots in uniform, and I love to step on maggots")* . . . First national exposure came in the WWF, when he signed a contract with The Grand Wizard *("Wiz was my general, my commander-in-chief. There'll never be another like him")* . . . His cobra clutch took its toll on a vast number of wrestlers, some of whom were forced out of the sport *("If I didn't do it, some-*

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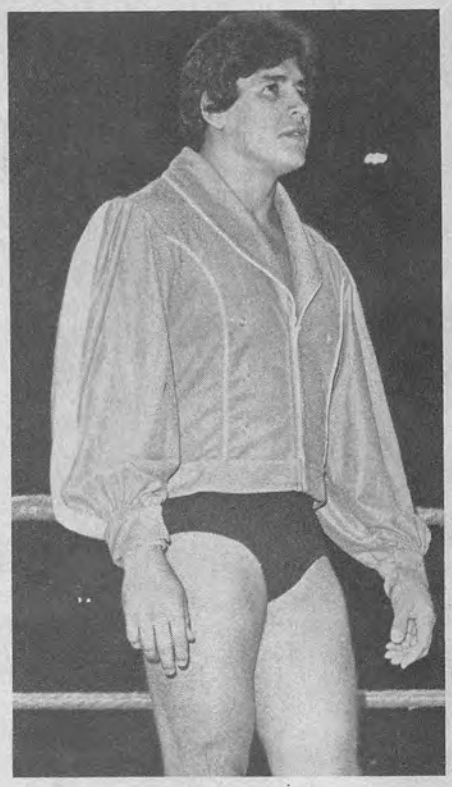

TITO SANTANA: Arriba!

ONE OF THE most highly regarded Mexican athletes in professional sports *("That's really an honor, but I would never compare myself to Mil Mascaras")* ... As WWF Intercontinental champion, is currently enjoying his most notable success *("Even though it's hard work to hold on to a title like this, I'm enjoying every moment of it")* ... Was born in Tocula, Mexico, but moved as a youngster to Mission, Texas *("I love Texas, but I will never forget my Mexican heritage")* ... Attended West Texas State, where he played tight end on a football team that boasts a list of alumni that includes Dusty Rhodes, Dick Murdoch, Dory Funk Jr., Terry Funk, and Bruiser Brody *("Tully Blanchard was our quarterback. He was a good friend then, but I don't like some of the things I've been hearing about him lately")* ... After graduation, Santana played professional football in the NFL with the Kansas City Chiefs and in the Canadian Football League with the British Columbia Lions *("Sometimes there were more wrestling scouts than football scouts in the stands while I was in college, but I went with football first. I figured I had more experience on the field than in the ring")* ... Left football for wrestling in 1977 *("I had a contract in my hands, and I gave it*

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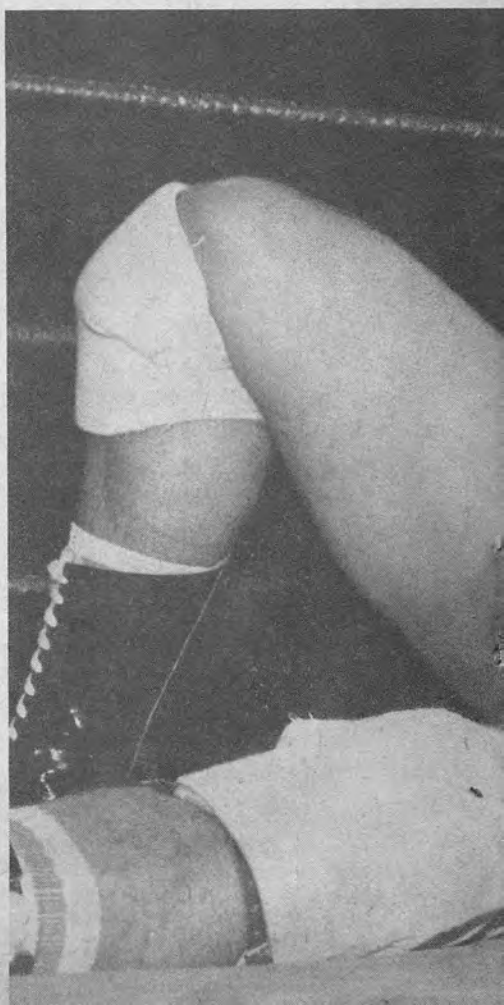
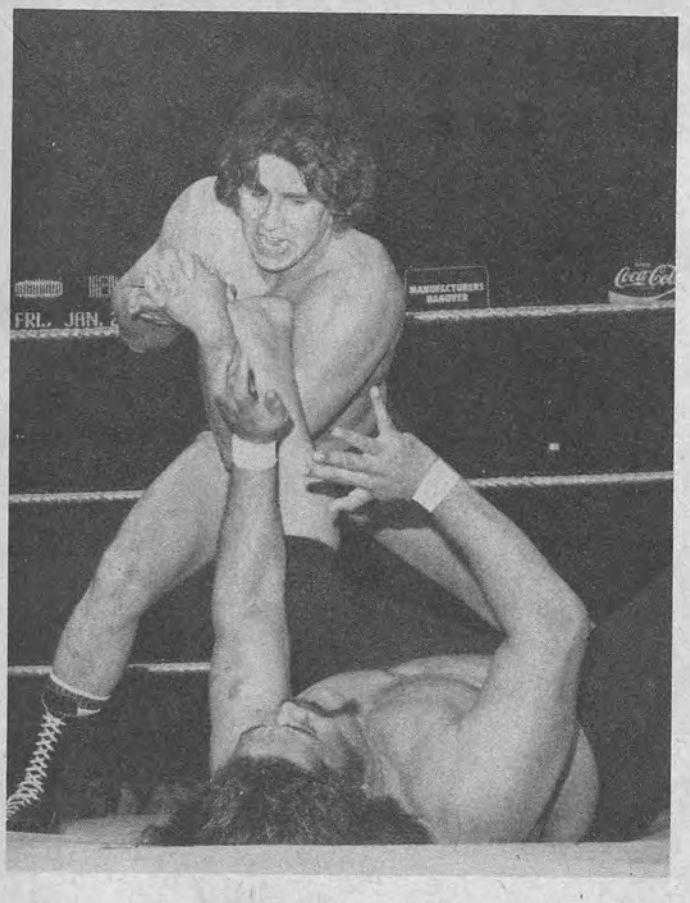
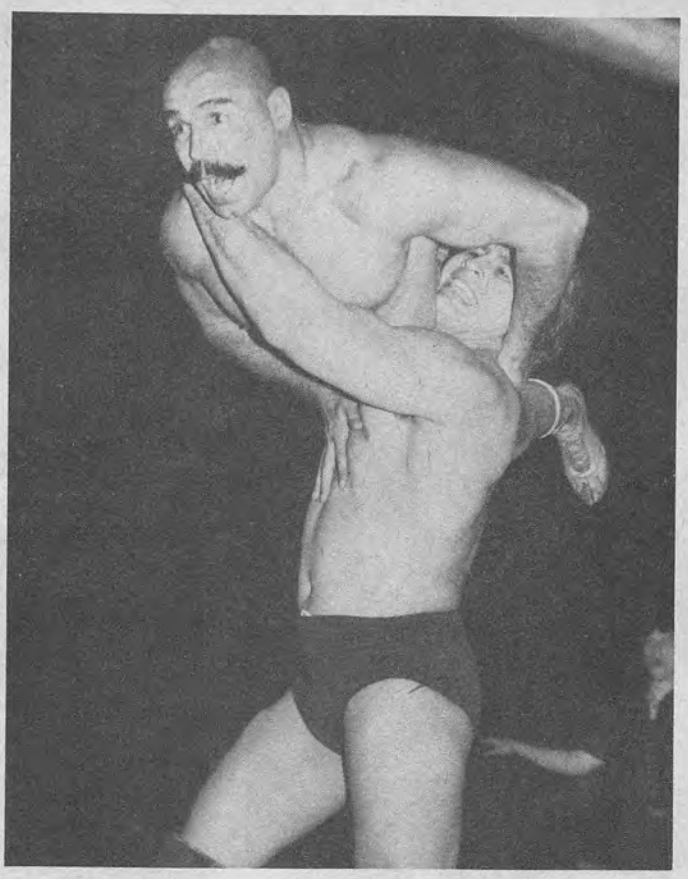






The popular Tito Santana is a proud Intercontinental champion. He has wrestled the best the WWF has to offer, including Samoan Afa (above left) and former WWF champion Iron Sheik (above right). On his first invasion of the WWF, in 1979, Tito climbed the ratings ladder with victories over tough veterans like Baron Scicluna (below).

DUSTY RHODES:

The American Dream

Neither blood nor pain will ever slow "The American Dream." His wars against Terry Funk in the mid-'70s, with the NWA title in the balance, are considered among the most brutal of all time.

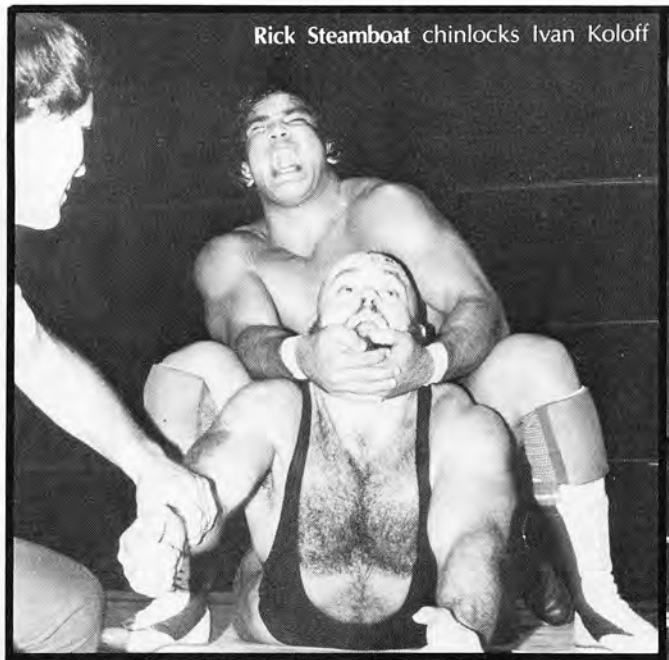
"THE AMERICAN DREAM" brings crowds to its feet all over the world by just strutting around the ring *("When you've got it, jack, flaunt it!")* . . . Continually works to update his vast repertoire of holds and maneuvers *("You can't stop learning in this sport, or you'll find yourself bein' passed on Championship Highway")* . . . Half of perhaps the most brutal tag team in history—The Outlaws—with Dick Murdoch *("Dickie is now teamin' with Adrian Adonis, a poor replacement for yours truly")* . . . Between teaming with Murdoch, the two have been involved in horrible feuds with

(Continued on page 39)

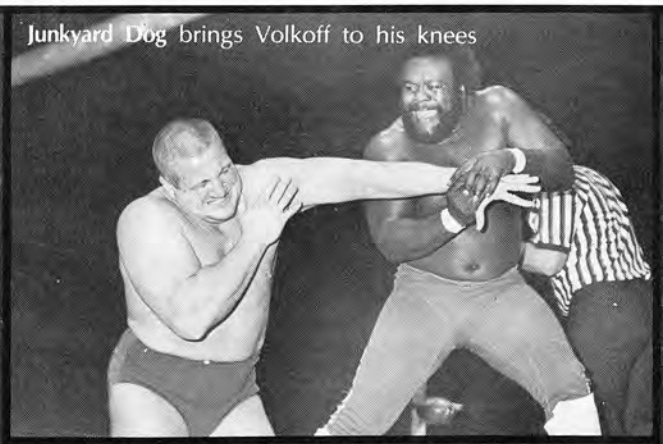
THESE MEN HAVE BEEN INDUCTED INTO THE

"U.S.A. HONOR GUARD"

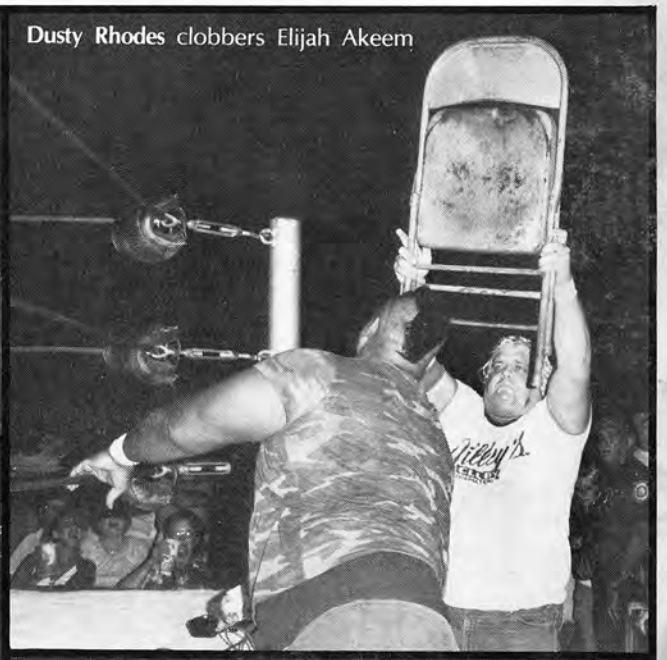
—AND YOU CAN BE TOO!



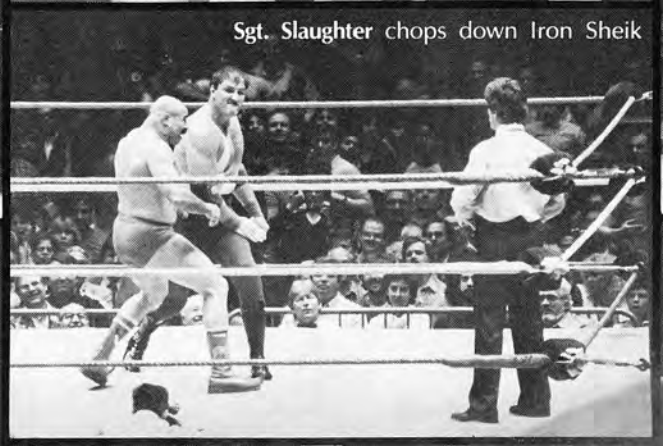
Rick Steamboat chinlocks Ivan Koloff



Junkyard Dog brings Volkoff to his knees



Dusty Rhodes clobbers Elijah Akeem

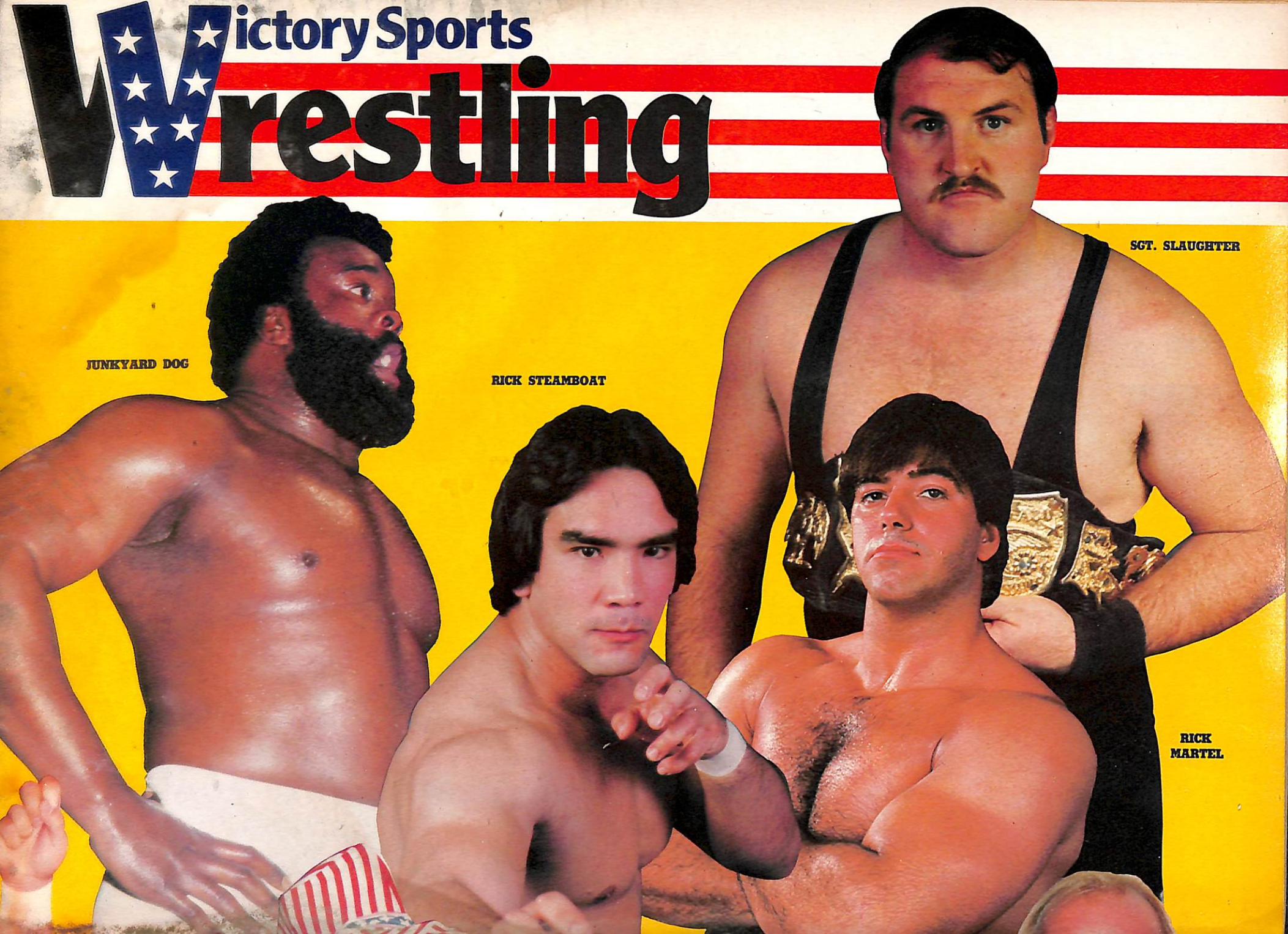


Sgt. Slaughter chops down Iron Sheik

Rick Martel puts the stretch on Jumbo Tsuruta

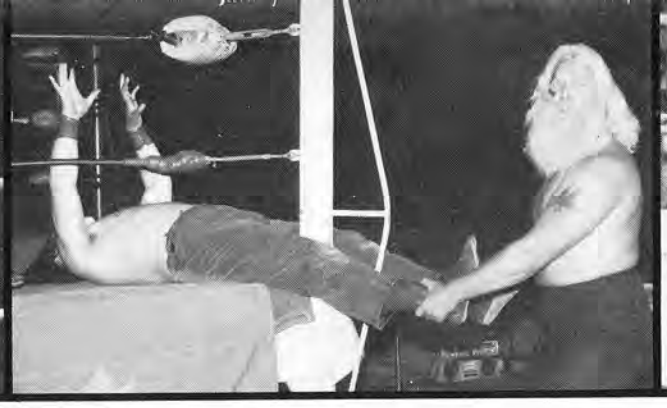
Hulk Hogan defeats Iron Sheik

Victory Sports Wrestling



PRESENTS THE

USA HONOR GUARD



AMERICAN WRESTLING IS under attack! Men like Nikolai Volkoff, Iron Sheik, Krusher Khrushchev, and Ivan Koloff openly parade their disdain for American wrestlers and American fans. Volkoff, a Russian who claims all American athletes are inferior to Russian athletes, predicts that within the next few years every major wrestling title will be owned by either a Russian or a Russian sympathizer. "American athletes are all cowards," Volkoff claims. "They were afraid to compete in 1980 Moscow Olympics because they knew they would all lose. Now, they made sure Russian athletes would not come to 1984 Olympics for same reason. I spit on American fans!"

Fortunately, there are many Americans—and friends of Americans—who are standing up for this country and freedom. We at *Victory Sports Wrestling* consider these men part of the "U.S.A. Honor Guard." These men intend to stem the tide of anti-Americanism by using the American Way: fair play and free competiton.

In this issue, we have inducted the following men into the *Victory Sports Wrestling* Honor Guard: **Junkyard Dog**, for his campaign against Nikolai Volkoff in the Mid-South; **Rick Steamboat**, for his matches against Ivan Koloff in the Mid-Atlantic; **Rick Martel**—even though he's a Canadian, he has pledged allegiance to America with his wars against Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie and his corps of AWA rulebreakers; **Sgt. Slaughter**, perhaps the most vocal of our inductees, for his stunning series of matches against The Iron Sheik, **Dusty Rhodes**, who was, is, and always will be The American Dream; **Jimmy Valiant**, for promising to "show Ivan and Nikita Koloff some good old-fashioned American Boogie Woogie"; and **Hulk Hogan**, for making sure the WWF title stays in America by defeating The Iron Sheik.

But these men cannot stand alone. And that's why *Victory Sports Wrestling* is giving YOU the chance to join the U.S.A. Honor Guard.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN JOIN THE "U.S.A. HONOR GUARD"

JUST SEND US a self-addressed stamped envelope (that's a stamped envelope with your home address on it, which is then put inside another envelope that has been addressed to us) and we will send you a FREE membership card in the *Victory Sports Wrestling* Honor Guard.

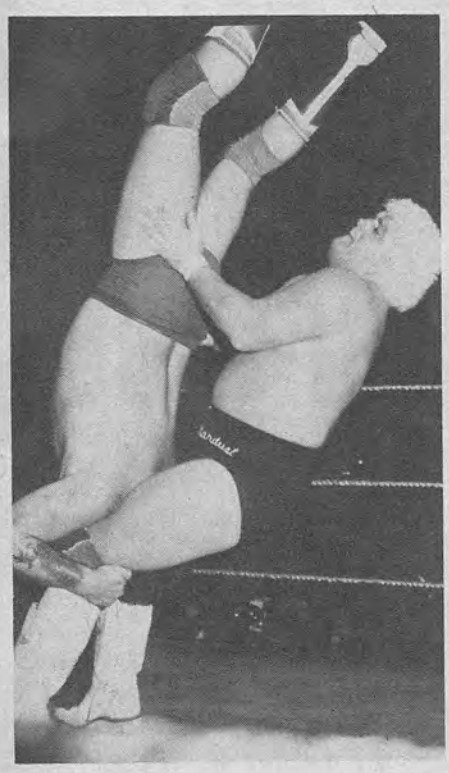
Send your self-addressed stamped envelope to us at:

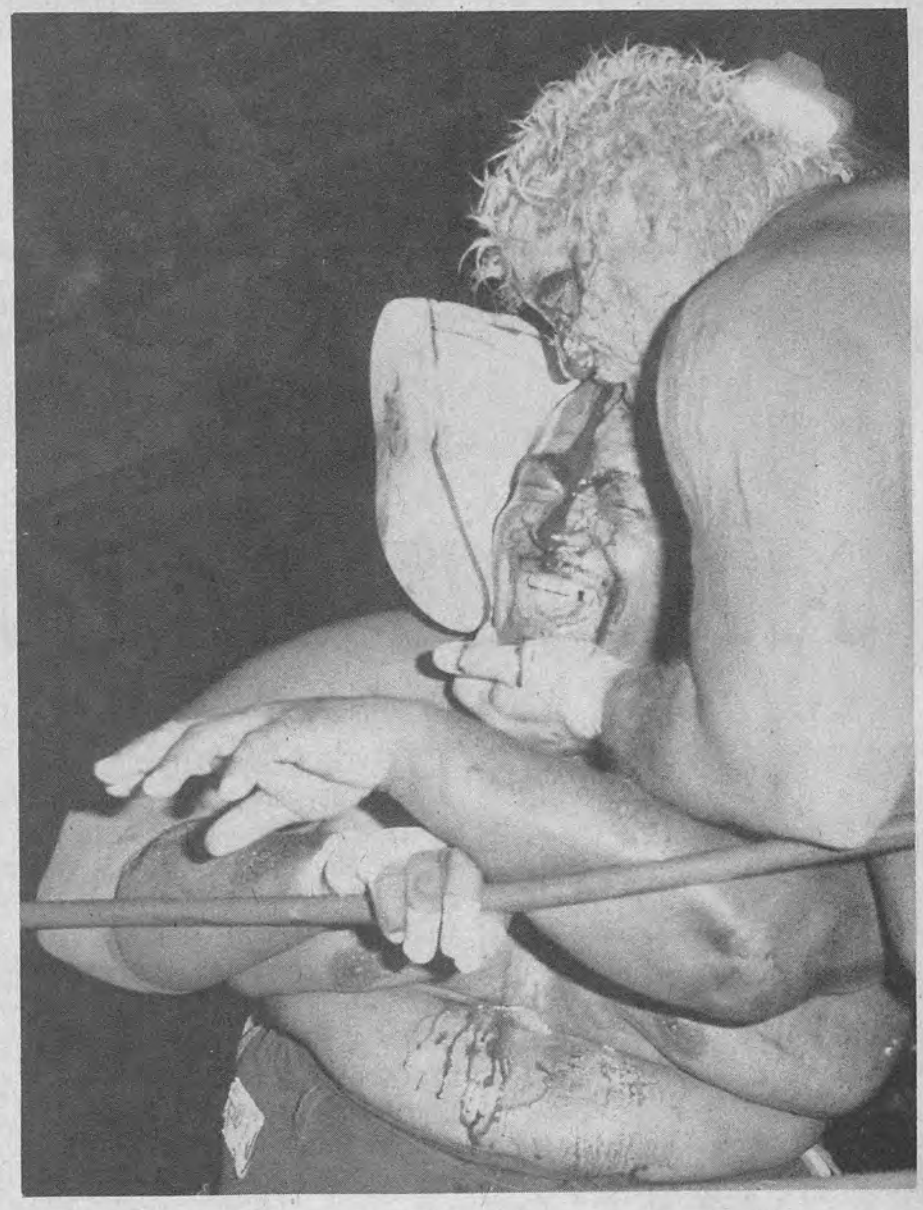
U.S.A. HONOR GUARD
c/o Victory Sports Wrestling
Box 48
Rockville Centre, NY 11571

When you receive your card, we hope you will hold it up in the arena to support the men who support America. But remember, we can't send you a card unless you send us a self-addressed stamped envelope. Don't delay, do it today.

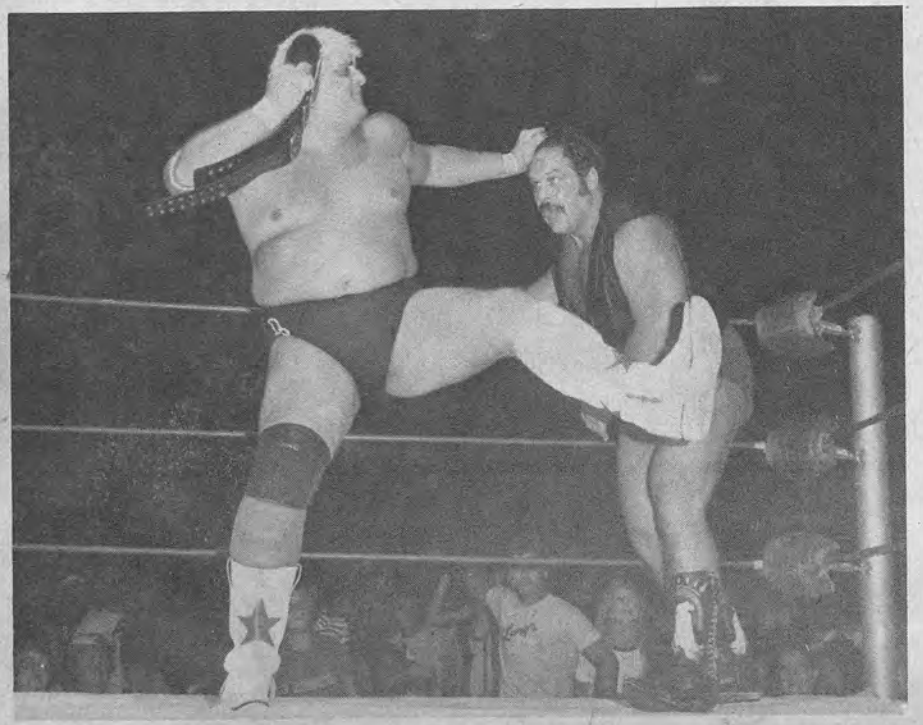
DUSTY RHODES

(Continued from page 34)





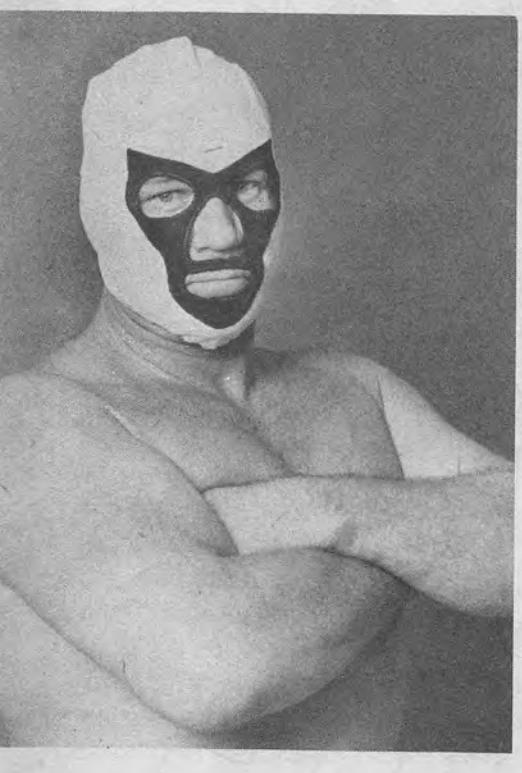
The Dream in action: Harley Race is piledrived (above), Abdullah is butchered (right), and Ron Bass is booted (below). The fans know Dusty will wrestle whomever they want, no matter how vicious that man may be.



each other *("Strictly a family fight. But you know how brutal those things can be")* . . . Has sold out arenas from coast to coast and around the world *("Fans everyhere enjoy a look at Stardust")* . . . His matches against then-WWF champion Superstar Graham in the late-'70s are considered classics *("We gave the fans what they wanted, as well as helpin' to keep the medical community busy")* . . . Favorite finishing hold is the bionic elbowsmash *("No one survives it when I do it right")* . . . A two-time NWA World champion, having upset Harley Race on August 21, 1979, in Tampa, and Race again on June 21, 1981, in Atlanta *("Tough man, that*

(Continued on page 58)

MR. WRESTLING II:

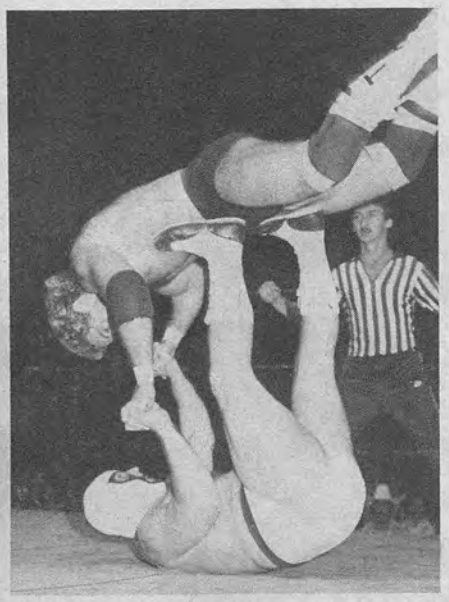


HIS TRUE IDENTITY unknown, Mr. Wrestling II first donned his famous black and white hood after the original Mr. Wrestling, Tim Woods, unmasked to qualify for an NWA World title match *("There were a lot of guys trying to pass themselves off as the new Mr. Wrestling. I took the identity of Wrestling II to uphold the reputation of masked wrestling")* . . . With Woods, II won the Georgia tag team titles *("He was my first partner, and I will always consider him the best partner I ever had")* . . . Went on to win a number of regional singles titles, including the Georgia, Mississippi, and North American heavyweight championships *("I've had a great deal of success in the South")* . . . Besides his numerous championships and accomplishments in the world of professional wrestling, Mr. Wrestling II was also the favorite wrestler of the family of former President Jimmy Carter *("I'll never forget meeting The President and Miss Lillian. The Carters were very down-to-earth people)* . . . Lost to Larry Zbyszko in the final round of the National heavyweight tournament *("Zbyszko used brass knuckles. He never beat me*

(Continued on page 52)

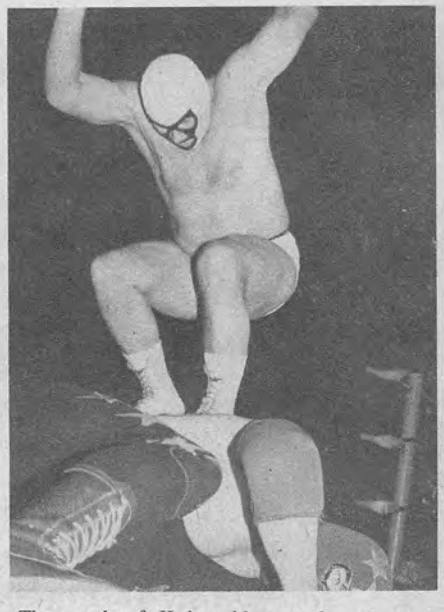
Two-Faced Masked Man

For most of his career, Mr. Wrestling II has been a favorite of the fans. Only recently has he turned his back on the cheers and wrestled as a rulebreaker. Hacksaw Butch Reed is headlocked on the canvas (above) during the days when II was loved by the fans.

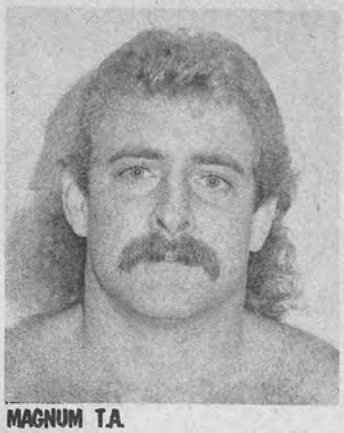


II monkeyflips Magnum T.A. during a match in New Orleans. Magnum was II's protege until the masked star grew jealous of his success.

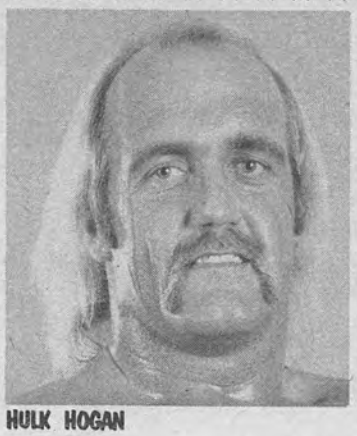
Wrestling II was a legend in Georgia, and matches against rulebreakers like Larry Zbyszko made him the most popular athlete in the state.

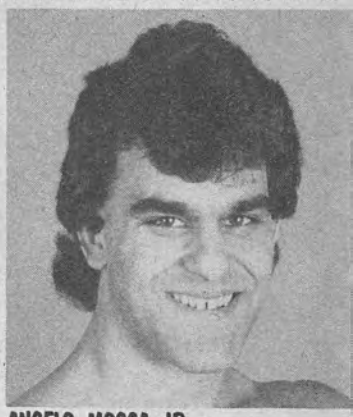


The wrath of II is evident as he stomps on Masked Superstar, then a hated rulebreaker. Will II ever return to his scientific ways?


MAGNUM T.A.

RIC FLAIR

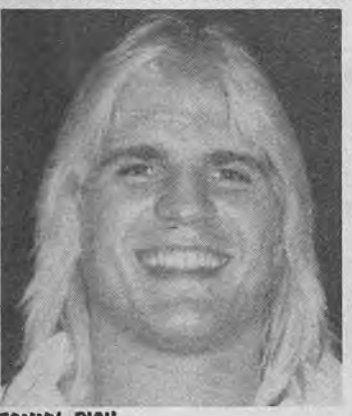

HULK HOGAN


ANGELO MOSCA JR.

Special Fan Ballot:

Vote For Wrestling's Sexiest Superstars

Wrestling is more than just an exhibition of brute strength. It is a sport of young, strong athletes who know their bodies are their keys to success. In this special feature, it is up to you, the fans, to decide which one man is wrestling combines all the attributes necessary to make him "wrestling's sexiest superstar"


TOMMY RICH

TITO SANTANA

KEVIN VON ERICH

KERRY VON ERICH

BACK IN 1982, the magazine *Wrestling Superstars* published a special fan poll in which readers could decide whom they thought was "wrestling's sexiest superstar." The results were printed in the Fall 1982 issue with the winner being Rick Martel.

Once again, in the Fall 1984 edition of *Wrestling Superstars,* there was a poll to determine whom the readers feel is "wrestling's sexiest superstar." In case you missed that edition, the editors of *Victory Sports Wrestling* felt the readers of this magazine should also have a chance to cast their votes for the sport's sexiest star.

The winner will be featured in his very own "Action Gallery" in the Winter 1984 issue of *Wrestling Superstars,* on sale September 18, as well as being featured in a beautiful "Color Montage Poster" in the very next issue of *Victory Sports Wrestling,* which will go on sale on August 21.

To help you with the ballotting, we have chosen 12 men whom we consider the top "contenders" for the title of "wrestling's sexiest superstar." These dozen men have been determined strictly by the amount of fan mail about each that comes into our offices.

In order to make your voting—and the tabulation of those votes—easier, the ballot at the end of this section contains spaces where you can check off your vote for any of these 12 men. Of course, your voting is not limited to just these 12 men. A space for write-in votes is provided so that you may cast your ballot for anyone you prefer. We recoginze that everybody has a different set of rules for determining the sexiest wrestler, so feel free to vote for whomever you want. And, as always, we welcome additional comments along with your official vote.

To help you in your voting, we have provided capsule profiles of the 12 men appearing in our ballot.

And don't forget: The man who receives the most votes will be featured in his own "Montage Poster" in our next issue. This is your chance to determine which wrestler will appear in the next full-color centerfold in both *Wrestling Superstars* and *Victory Sports Wrestling.*

SEND BALLOT TO: **"Sexiest Wrestler Vote"**
c/o *Victory Sports Wrestling*
Box 48
Rockville Centre, NY 11571

I THINK THE SEXIEST MAN IN ALL OF PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING IS: *(Choose Only One)*

( )Magnum T.A.	( )Tommy Rich
( )Ric Flair	( )Tommy Rogers
( )Hulk Hogan	( )Tito Santana
( )Billy Jack	( )Rick Steamboat
( )Rick Martel	( )Kerry Von Erich
( )Angelo Mosca Jr.	( )Kevin Von Erich

WRITE-IN CHOICE: .....

YOUR NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

..... **AGE:** .....

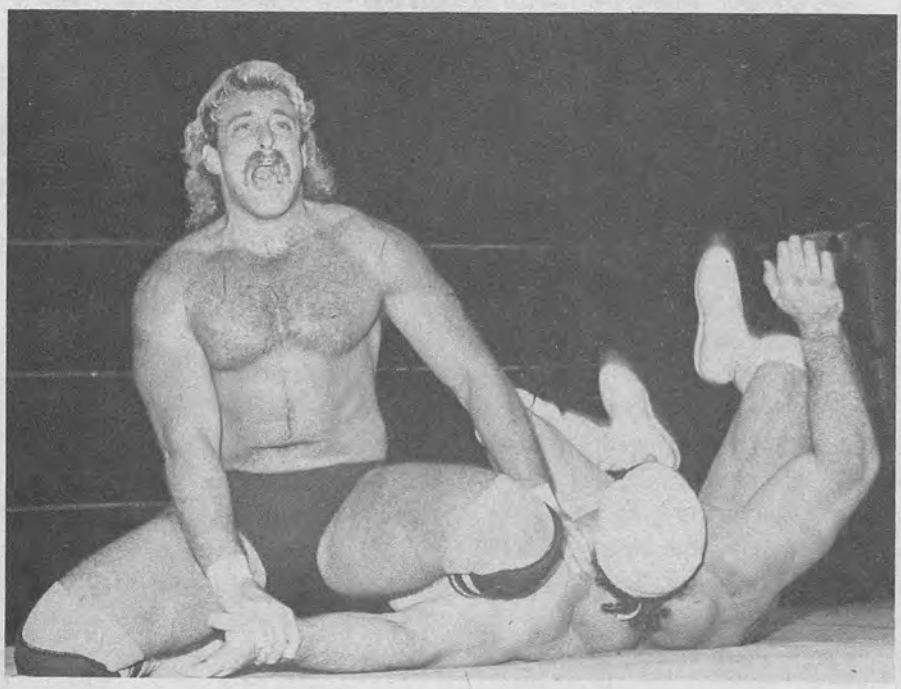
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: .....

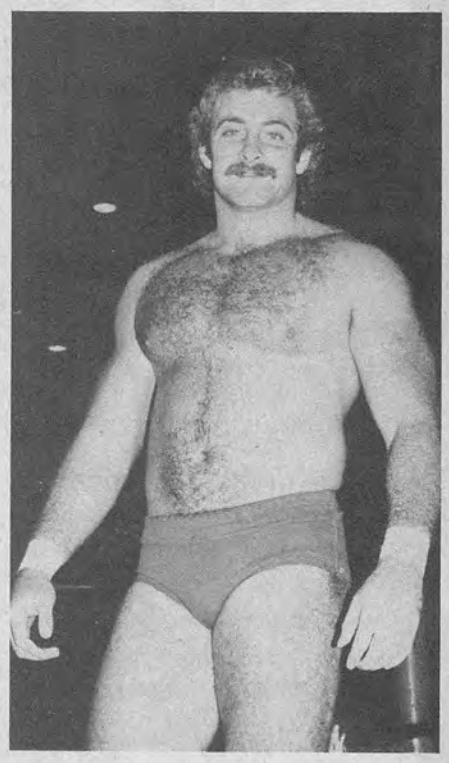
.....

.....

Terry "Magnum T.A." Allen

Formerly the protege of Mr. Wrestling II, Magnum T.A. is presently embroiled in a bitter feud with his former mentor. One correspondent to our sister publication *Wrestling Superstars* recently wrote that, "Terry Allen is as sexy as they come in this sport, or any other sport, for that matter. A lot of people made fun of him when he took on the name 'Magnum T.A.,' because Tom Selleck plays 'Magnum P.I.' on television. Well, if you ask me, Terry is sexier now than Selleck can ever hope to be."

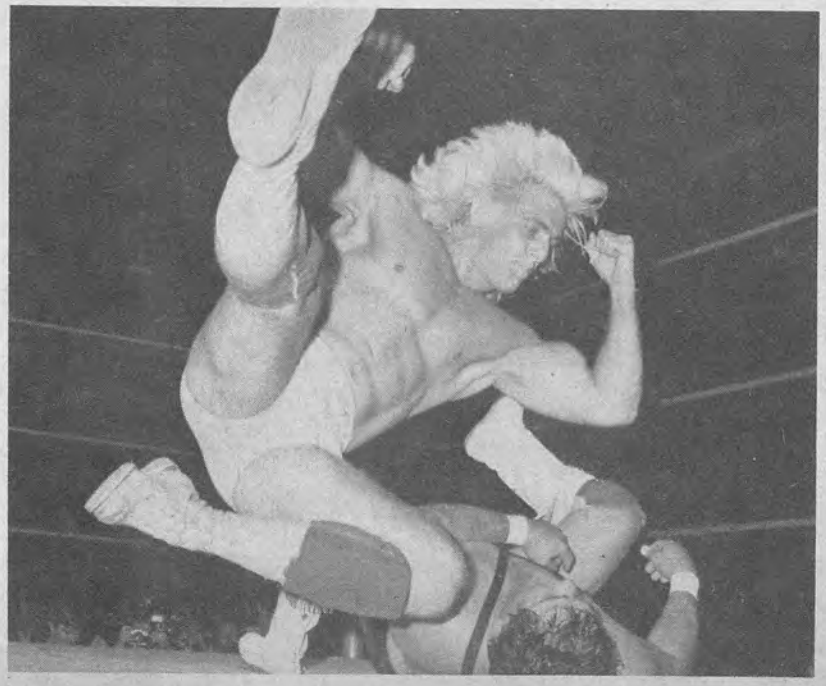




Magnum T.A. knees the shoulder of his hated enemy, Mr. Wrestling III (left). Who's sexier—Magum T.A. or Magnum P.I.?

Ric Flair

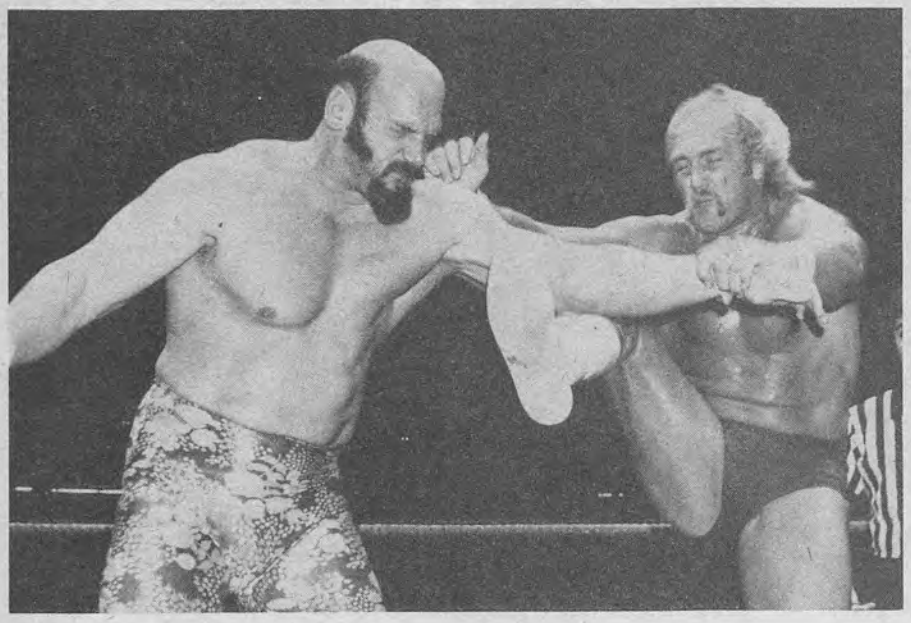
Flair, currently enjoying his third NWA World title reign, is a man who prefers to live his life in the fast lane. He is seldom seen in public without two beautiful women hanging onto his arms, and he seldom grants an interview without mentioning how the women of the world go wild over his physique and fame. Flair finished fifth in the 1982 voting for wrestling's sexiest superstar, saying of himself that he has "sex appeal for a real woman, and it comes straight from a champion who is all man . . . and a man who is all champion."

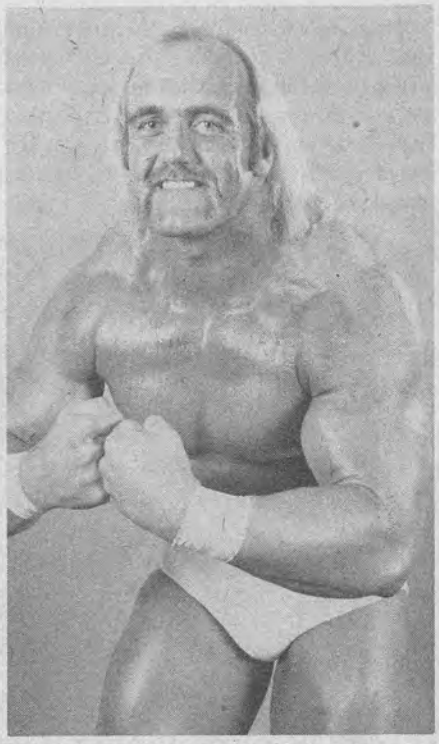


Ric Flair drops his elbow across the face of Wahoo McDaniel (left). The NWA champion has a higher opinion of himself than most other people do.

Hulk Hogan

Any devoted follower of WWF wrestling will certainly tell you that Hulk-a-Mania is running wild these days. The current WWF heavyweight champion was featured as "Thunderlips" in the enormously successful movie *Rocky III.* Two years ago, Hogan captured 7,612 votes from the fans to finish in fourth place in the sexiest wrestler poll. At the time, Hogan said that he is, "the molten mountain of lust, the object of desire for so many women that I can't count them all. I have more adoring women, more devoted love slaves, more females that simply foam at the mouth at the mere mention of the name Hulk Hogan, than any of those candy-coated schoolboys who finished ahead of me."

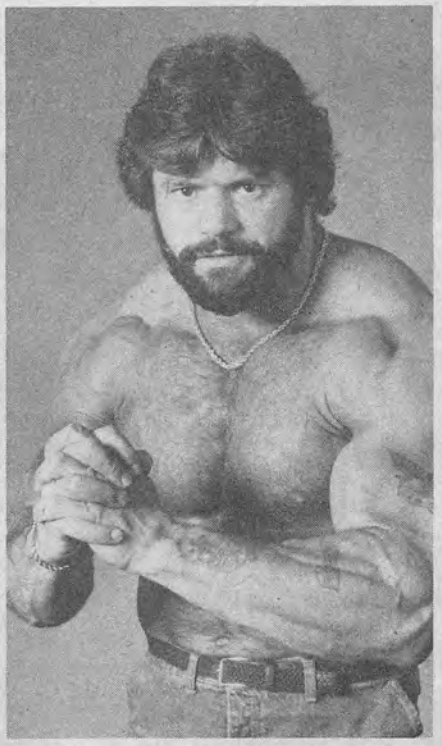




Hulk Hogan kicks Jesse Ventura's outstretched arm (left). The WWF champion is the idol of wrestling fans and moviegoers alike.

Billy Jack

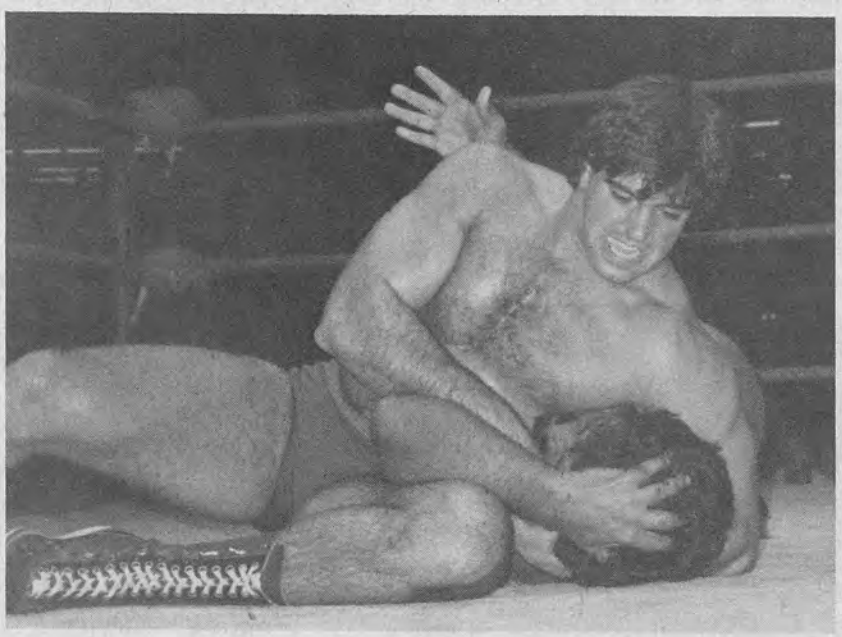
This newcomer to the Florida wrestling scene possesses one of the most incredible physiques in all of sport. He is currently involved in a brutal feud with another Florida muscelman, Superstar Billy Graham. A product of the great Pacific Northwest, Billy Jack has been receiving a great deal of national attention and acclaim in recent months due to his success in the Sunshine State. His best hold, the full nelson, takes enormous strength to execute.

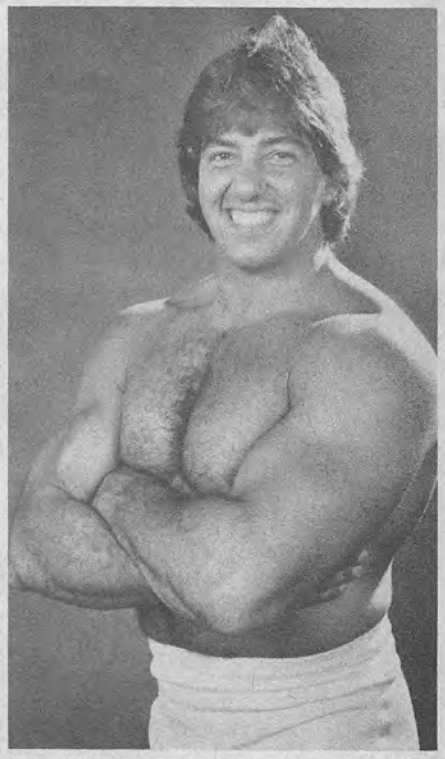


Billy Jack outduels Kendo Nagasaki with kendo sticks (left). Billy is what many women call "the epitome of a man."

Rick Martel

Martel, who recently won the AWA World title from Jumbo Tsuruta, was the winner of 1982's voting for wrestling's sexiest superstar. His boyish good looks and straightforward, honest personality accounted for many of the more than 8,500 votes he received two years ago. At that time, Martel noted of his popularity: "I'm extremely flattered. I really don't know what to say. I just try to be myself when I wrestle. I don't try to make myself something that I'm not. I hope that this kind of honesty was what a lot of my fans were responding to in the poll, because it's something that I put a lot of value in personally."

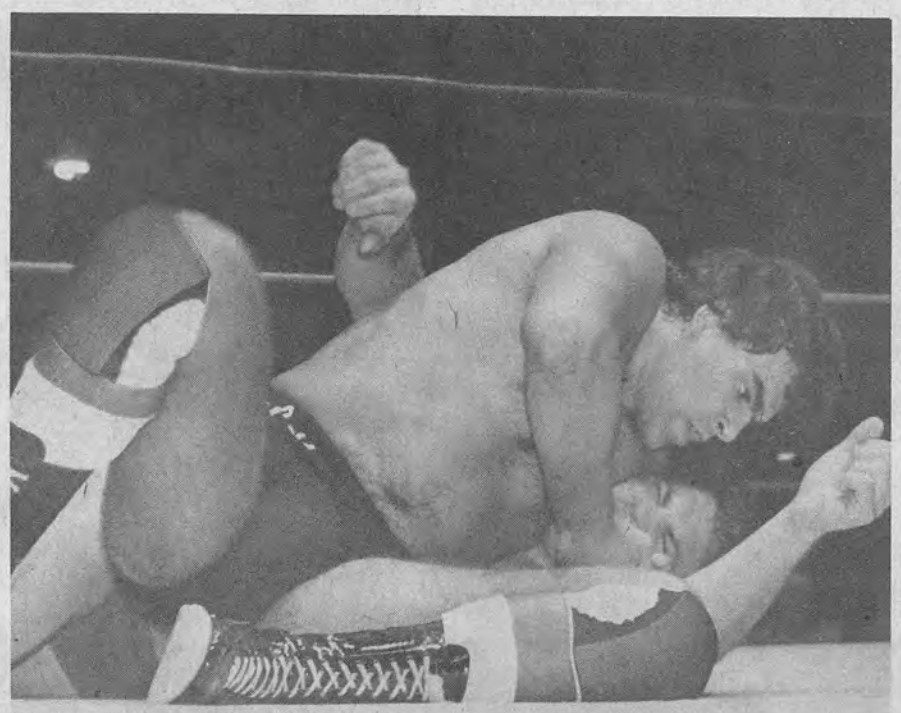




AWA champion Rick Martel applies a side headlock on Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie (left). Martel was voted "Sexiest Superstar" in 1982.

Angelo Mosca Jr.

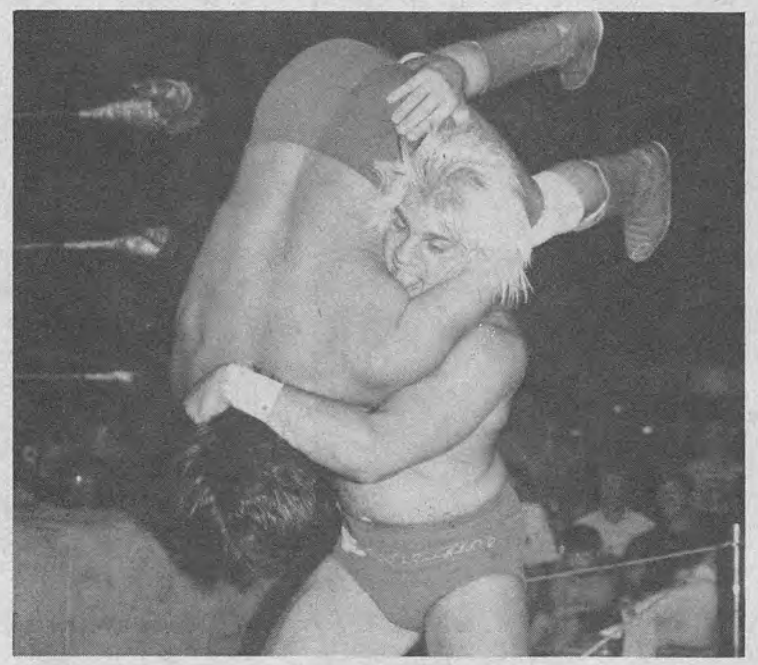
Mosca Jr. is currently campaigning in the Mid-Atlantic area, where he rose to stardom about a year ago after defeating Ivan Koloff for the Mid-Atlantic heavyweight title. Although still officially in his rookie year, the son of "Mean and Nasty" Angelo Mosca Sr. is enjoying the success of a veteran. What effect his father's reversion to rulebreaking in Florida will have on the younger Mosca should be seen before the summer of '84 is over.

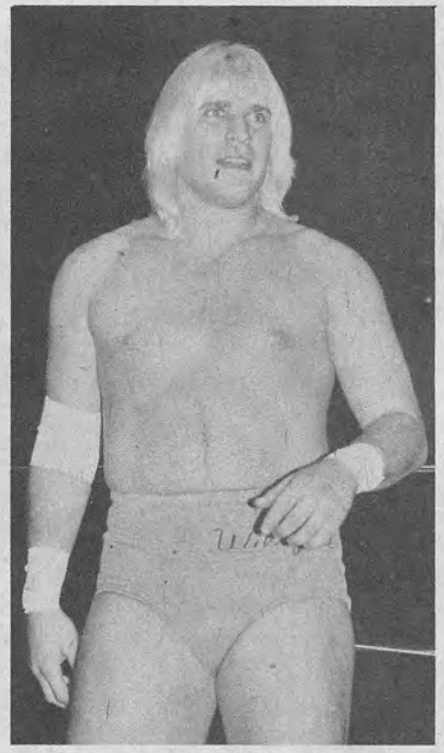


Angelo Mosca Jr. controls the action against Ron Ritchie (left). Mosca, 1983's Rookie of the Year, is quickly becoming one of the most popular men in wrestling.

Tommy Rich

He calls himself "Wildfire," and he is undeniably among the most popular wrestlers in the entire sport. A second-place finisher in our previous sexiest wrestler poll, Tommy Rich trailed winner Rick Martel by only 234 votes. At that time, Tommy said that he "never really thought of myself as being very sexy, but I don't know! All I can really say to my friends is thanks!" Tommy is presently wrestling in the Mid-Southern area as one of "Fargo's Fabulous Ones," along with Eddie Gilbert.

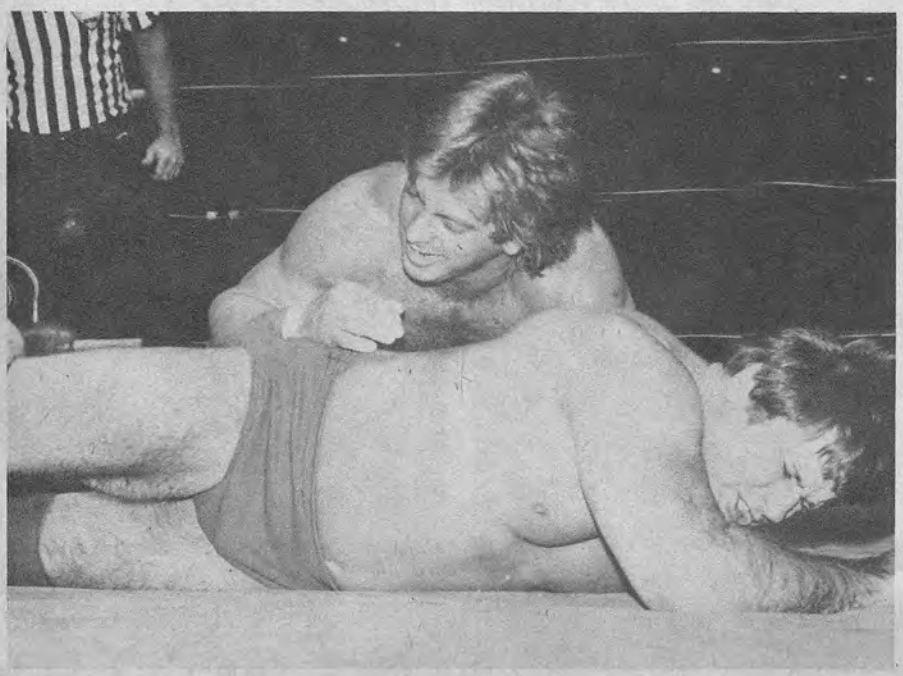


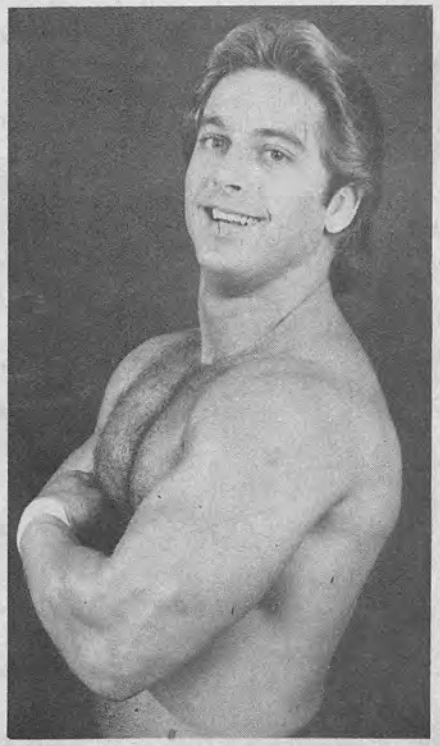


Tommy Rich bodyslams Bill Dundee outside the ring (left). Rich finished second behind Martel in the 1982 "Sexiest Wrestler" poll.

Tommy Rogers

A top contender to Les Thornton's NWA junior heavyweight title, Tommy Rogers has sent shock waves throughout the Georgia area with his high-flying style and his impressive physique. His favorite maneuver, the "Rogers Rocket," is a spectacular flying bodypress from the top rope in which he literally propels himself across almost the entire length of the ring. There is virtually unanimous agreement among observers of the Georgia wrestling scene that Rogers will be a major force to contend with in the months and years to come.

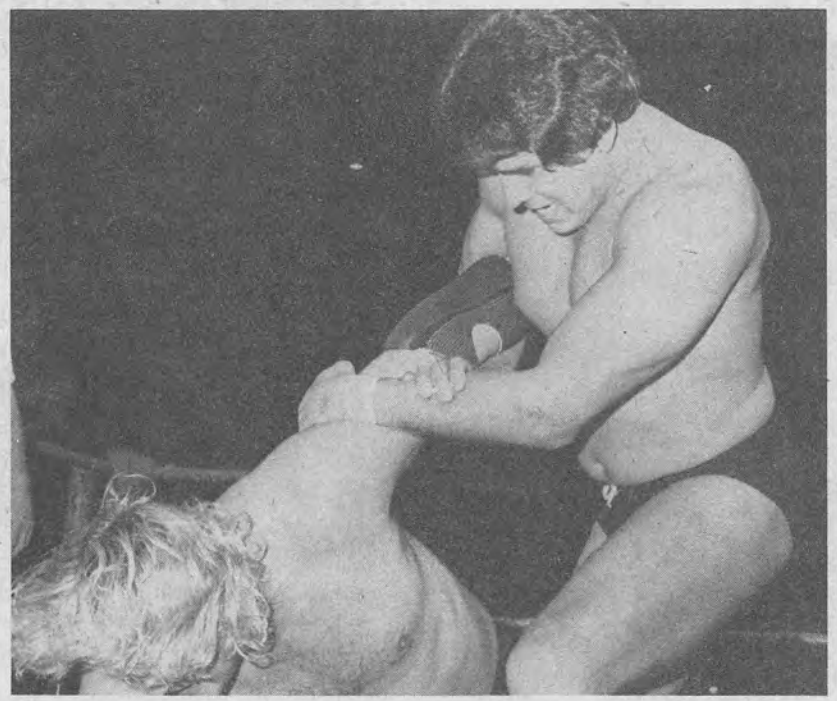




Tommy Rogers punishes Les Thornton's left arm (left). Rogers, a health fanatic, is a top contender for Thornton's NWA junior heavyweight title.

Tito Santana

Currently the WWF Intercontinental heavyweight champion, Tito Santana is unquestionably one of the most loved men in the sport today, by children and adults alike. He's a well-rounded wrestler who can combine conventional scientific moves with spectacular aerial maneuvers. As he has matured, he has been able to control the temper that had previously been considered detrimental to his career.

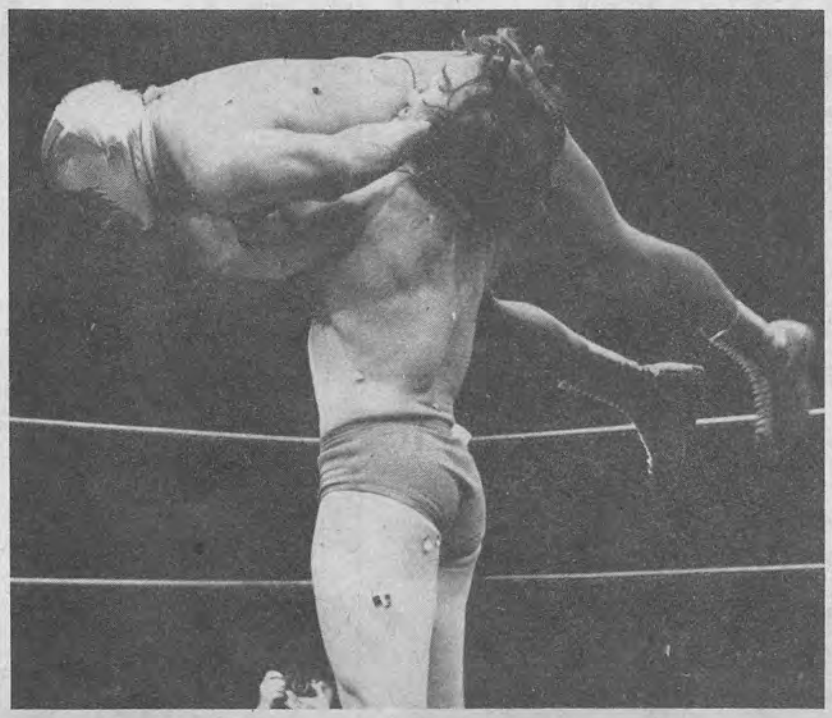


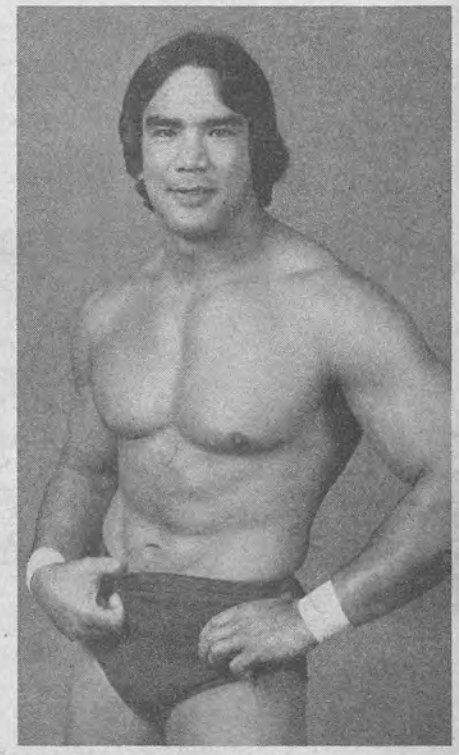
Tito Santana locks up Bobby Duncum's arm (left). Tito, the WWF Intercontinental champion, is very popular with young children.

Rick Steamboat

Steamboat, the U.S. heavyweight titlist, was the third-place finisher in the 1982 vote for wrestling's sexiest superstar. In the results for the 1982 voting, one fan wrote that, "Rick Steamboat exudes a quiet sexiness, a kind of strong self-confidence that isn't too overwhelming because of his ego, but that's definitely there and is apparent in everything he does."

(Continued on page 60)





Rick Steamboat battles Mil Mascaras in a classic scientific encounter (left). Rick owns a gymnasium and works out religiously.

THE NWA CHAMPIONS PUZZLE

This is a chance for you to learn the names of some of the NWA's best champions, and have some fun at the same time. Hidden in the puzzle below are the names of 14 NWA champions. See if you can circle and find all 14. Names are hidden vertically, horizontally, and diagonally. Good luck!

Time Limit: **10 Minutes**

NAMES HIDDEN IN THE PUZZLE:

THESZ • FLAIR • BRISCO • RHODES • FUNK • KINISKI • VON ERICH • ROGERS • BABA • LONGSON • WATSON • NAGURSKI • HUTTON • RACE

S	F	W	A	T	S	O	N	L	H	O	G	A	N	H	S	Z	N
Z	L	B	A	F	T	S	A	E	A	A	O	P	K	P	T	H	H
W	A	T	S	N	S	H	U	T	C	C	L	L	R	O	D	U	E
V	O	N	R	S	C	K	I	G	F	A	E	B	T	H	T	Z	Z
U	J	T	C	G	T	D	T	G	O	P	R	J	N	T	E	F	S
Y	U	I	H	P	Q	U	J	H	T	I	F	V	O	K	O	R	F
U	R	F	S	E	R	D	R	H	S	K	U	N	K	E	F	D	L
B	R	S	C	X	S	T	H	C	I	D	N	E	R	T	G	H	M
F	U	N	J	J	L	Z	O	G	H	N	A	G	U	R	S	K	I
Z	E	N	G	A	G	N	D	V	J	K	L	U	Y	D	S	R	B
H	O	T	T	E	N	H	E	B	F	R	O	K	L	F	N	K	U
M	W	R	O	G	E	R	S	C	A	T	J	O	T	B	A	B	A
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K	I	N	I	S	K	I	G	O	H	C	I	R	E	N	O	V	H
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U	G	K	N	U	F	I	C	F	S	W	D	A	R	I	A	L	F

Answer To Puzzle On Page 56

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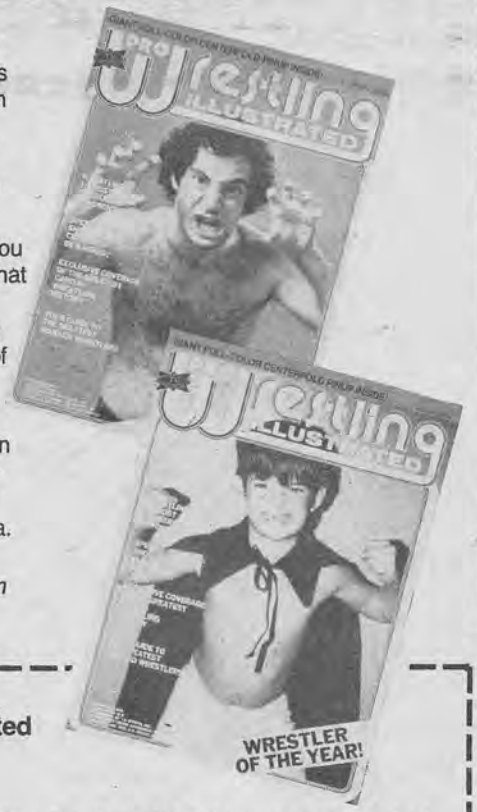

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SHOHEI BABA

(Continued from page 15)

feuded with Antonino Rocca *("I have never seen another man who could perform aerial maneuvers like Rocca")* . . . Held the International Tag Team title twice *("Sakaguchi and Jumbo Tsuruta were both excellent partners")* . . . Held the NWA heavyweight title twice *("Jack Brisco and Harley Race were both very difficult matches for me, and I feel I earned the title both times")* . . . Has held the Pacific Wrestling Federation heavyweight title several times, most recently regaining the belt from Harley Race in February 1983 *("Sometimes I feel as if I am always wrestling Harley Race for a title!")* . . . Is one of the most respected athletes in Japan *("The fans in my home country have always been good to me")*. □

TULLY BLANCHARD

(Continued from page 23)

a bigger hit on television than Dynasty*")* . . . His style is fast and brutal *("I'm an athlete and a brawler, so I might as well use all my abilities")* . . . Has feuded with Mike Graham for years *("We have a lot in common, except I'm a winner and he's a loser")* . . . While in the AWA, Blanchard and Hernandez interfered in a match that cost Tommy Rich the chance to win the title from then-AWA champion Nick Bockwinkel *("Even if Rich wins, which he never does fairly, he doesn't deserve to be champion")* . . . Has no desire to leave the Mid-Atlantic at present *("I figure it will take a few years to smarten these fans up so'll they'll appreciate my greatness")* . . . Claims to have been responsible for at least a dozen men being forced to leave wrestling *("If they can't take the punishment, they don't belong in the sport")*. □

SGT. SLAUGHTER

(Continued from page 31)

one less honorable than me would've, and they would be crippled for life instead of just retired") . . . Feuds with Bob Backlund, Andre the Giant, Pat Patterson, and Bruno Sammartino made him one of the WWF's most hated men *("I didn't enter this sport to win popularity contests")* . . . Left the WWF for the Mid-Atlantic area, where he soon won the U.S. heavyweight title in a tournament *("It was my first major belt, and I was proud to represent the United States as its heavyweight champion, even though the fans hated my guts")* . . . Lost the title to Wahoo McDaniel in the culmination of a brutal feud *("Wahoo and I never hit it off. Those Injuns don't like to follow orders")* . . . Later became a co-holder of the NWA World tag team title with Don Kernodle, before losing the belts to Rick Steamboat and Jay Youngblood in the spectacular "Great Night In Greensboro" card *("Kernodle was a perfect recruit; he followed my orders to the letter. Until he screwed up in that match in Greensboro")* . . . Came back to the WWF, again under the tutelage of The Grand Wizard, and continued his feud with Backlund . . . After the Wizard's death, Slaughter carried on alone *("Albano and Blassie offered me contracts, but I was faithful to the Wiz. I always thought Albano and Blassie were nothin' but scum, anyway")* . . . Began to rethink his philosophy about winning at all costs *("There is an American way of doing things, you know")* . . . After a televised bout, had a shouting match with The Iron Sheik, and the two began a feud that electrified wrestling *("No smelly Iranian is gonna put down America as long as the Sarge is around")* . . . Is currently one of the most popular men in wrestling, and hopes to bring his vision of the Cobra Corps to wrestling fans everywhere *("Suck in those guts, hit the floor and give me 100 pushups, and get set to hike 50 miles with full gear on—the Sarge is coming!")*. □

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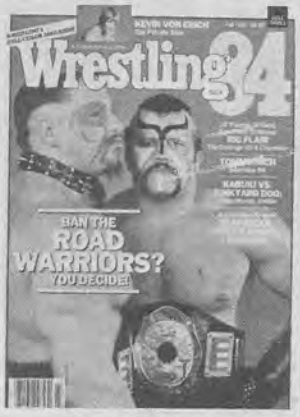

- *A colorful look at four WWF superstars: Sgt. Slaughter, Jimmy Snuka, Hulk Hogan, and Tito Santana*
- *Mr. Wrestling II in the "Crossfire"*
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BUGSY McGRAW

(Continued from page 27)

the best president ever") . . . Supports an American Dream movement similar to that of Dusty Rhodes *("If people don't like this country, let them move somewhere else")* . . . Was once a hated rulebreaker, is now a beloved fan favorite *("I like it much better this way")* . . . Still living in New York City, even though he currently wrestles in the Mid-Southern area *("It's a long commute, but I like to fly, sometimes even in an airplane")* . . . The tag team combination of McGraw and Boogie Woogie Man Jim Valiant will always be remembered by Mid-Atlantic fans as one of the best—and craziest—ever *("Yeah, Jimbo and I traveled to the beat of a different drum, maybe even a different orchestra").* □

MR. WRESTLING II

(Continued from page 41)

legally") . . . Stole the belt, and returned it only after Zbyszko agreed to wrestle Brett Sawyer, who beat him for the title . . . After success with Sawyer, II began to coach Terry "Magnum T.A." Allen in the Mid-South *("I went to the officials of Mid-South Wrestling and told them I wanted to make T.A. into a man")* . . . Allen's teaming with Lanny Poffo upset II *("I tried to tell that fool T.A., but he wouldn't listen")* . . . Began a heartbreaking feud with T.A. that shook Mid-South wrestling, but resulted in II winning the North American title . . . Demanded to be known as "Mr. Wrestling," and brought in a new protege, a masked wrestler named Mr. Wrestling III *("I can trust this guy. He won't turn on me")* . . . Continues to stun Mid-South fans by using highly illegal tactics *("I was a fool not to wrestle like this before. They only ask you if you won, not how")* . . . Now that II has lost the N.A. title to Magnum T.A., II's fans throughout the world hope he will return to scientific wrestling. □

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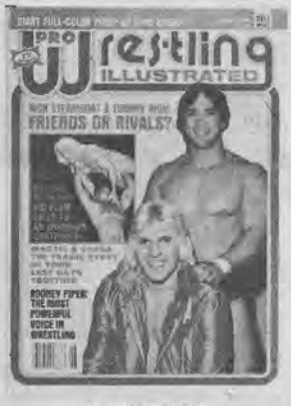


AUGUST 1982

July 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: The Sheik. Cover story: Bruno Sammartino. PLUS: Wrestling II, Race, Ladd, Albano.

August 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: Koloff and Smirnoff. Cover story: Bruno vs. Zbyszko. PLUS: Idol, Von Erichs, Rhodes, Hogan.

October 1981/COLOR POSTER: Ted DiBiase. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Piper. PLUS: Backlund, Brody, Mascaras, Rich.

January 1982/COLOR POSTER: Magnificent Muraco. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Flair. PLUS: Hogan, Koloff, Von Erichs, Atlas, Zbyszko.

May 1982/COLOR POSTER: Ric Flair. Cover story: Wrestling II vs. Spoiler. PLUS: Mulligan Jr., Backlund, McDaniel, Piper.

June 1982/COLOR POSTER: Nick Bockwinkel. Cover story: Adonis & Ventura. PLUS: Snuka, Patera, Blassie, Flair.

August 1982/COLOR POSTER: Dino Bravo. Cover story: Steamboat & Rich. PLUS: Andre, Martel, Piper, Blassie.

September 1982/COLOR POSTER: Blackjack Mulligan Jr. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Piper, Snuka, Von Erich, Martel.

October 1982/COLOR POSTER: Jerry Lawler. Cover story: Ric Flair. PLUS: Rhodes, Graham, Race, Funk Jr.

December 1982/COLOR POSTER: Rick Martel. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. PLUS: Von Erich, Orndorff, Reed, Albano.

January 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ken Patera. Cover story: Rick Steamboat. PLUS: Rich, Brody, Sullivan, Backlund.

February 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ivan Putski. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Garvin. PLUS: Snuka, Super Destroyer, Bockwinkel, Funk.

March 1983/COLOR POSTER: Andre The Giant. Cover photo: Bob Backlund. SPECIAL YEAR-END ISSUE! 1982—The Year In Review! PLUS: Results of the 1982 *PWI* Fan Poll!

April 1983/COLOR POSTER: Superstar Graham. Cover story: Mil Mascaras. PLUS: Valentine, Hansen, Orndorff, Hart.

May 1983/COLOR POSTER: Jimmy Valiant. Cover story: Jimmy Snuka. PLUS: Windham, Bockwinkel, Flair, Graham.

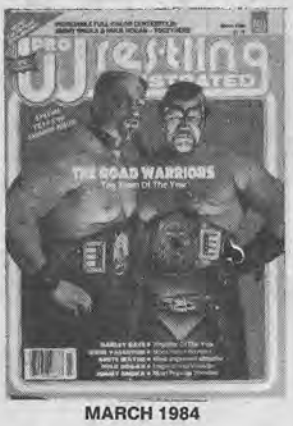
JULY 1983

June 1983/COLOR POSTER: Cowboy Bob Orton. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Brisco, Von Erich, Slaughter, Muraco.

July 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ivan Koloff. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Patera, Von Erich, Snuka, Geigel.

August 1983/COLOR POSTER: Larry Zbyszko. Cover story: Roddy Piper. PLUS: Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.

October 1983/COLOR POSTER: Junkyard Dog. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Johnson, Adonis, Rhodes, Piper.



MARCH 1984

November 1983/COLOR POSTER: Roddy Piper. Cover story: Harley Race. PLUS: Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

December 1983/COLOR POSTER: Wahoo McDaniel. Cover story: Dusty Rhodes. PLUS: Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.

January 1984/COLOR POSTER: Harley Race. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

February 1984/COLOR POSTER: Jim Garvin & Sunshine. Cover story: Greg Valentine. PLUS: Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

March 1984/SPECIAL FOUR-PAGE COLOR SECTION featuring Jimmy Snuka & Hulk Hogan, Brett Sawyer, Ric Flair vs. Harley Race. Cover photo: The Road Warriors. SPECIAL YEAR-END ISSUE—1983 In Review! Plus 1983 *PWI* Fan Poll results!

April 1984/COLOR POSTER: Rocky Johnson. Cover story: Ric Flair. PLUS: Hogan, Andre, Rich, Bundy.

May 1984/COLOR POSTER: Hacksaw Butch Reed. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. PLUS: Road Warriors, Fabulous Ones, Flair, Rotundo.

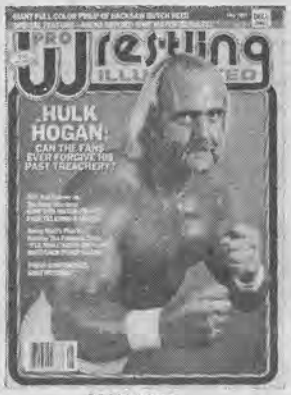
June 1984/COLOR POSTER: Dick Slater. Cover story: Ted DiBiase. PLUS: Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, One Man Gang, Hogan.

July 1984/COLOR POSTER: Paul Ellering. Cover story: Jimmy Valiant. PLUS: Junkyard Dog, Fabulous Ones, Gagne, Windham.

August 1984/COLOR POSTER: Stan Hansen. Cover story: Jerry Lawler. PLUS: Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell, Flair.

September 1984/COLOR POSTER: Hulk Hogan. Cover story: The Road Warriors. SPECIAL FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE—A Look Back At Wrestling In The *PWI* Years.

October 1984/COLOR POSTER: Billy Jack. Cover story: Kerry Von Erich. PLUS: Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.



MAY 1984

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JIMMY VALIANT

(Continued from page 29)

("That one hurt me, daddy, because I love to be wrestling for my fans most of all. That's the number one thing in the world for me—my fans and my wrestling") . . . Many fans believe that Charlie Brown, a masked man who replaced Valiant during those months, was in fact Valiant under a mask *("That's impossible, brother, because that would have meant that I would have to have been in two places at once, and even the Boogie Woogie Man can't do that!")* . . . Recently had his enormous beard shaved off by Paul Jones and The Assassins *("My pride and joy is startin' to grow back, but I still have some revenge to bring home against Jones and his boys!")* . . . Is looking for the right partner to team with to defeat The Road Warriors *("That Hawk and Animal, they be a couple of mean dudes, but with the right partner I think I can defeat 'em!")* . . . Has formed "The Boogie Woogie Brigade" and is offering free membership cards to any fan who wants to join and show his support for Valiant *("Send for your cards today, friends. This is the best way you can show that you support what I'm doing and that you're ready to boogie woogie all day and all night!")*. □

JIMMY SNUKA

(Continued from page 8)

me") . . . He and Stevens reigned twice as the NWA World tag team champions . . . Was managed by Buddy Rogers, and later Gene Anderson, during his stay in the Mid-Atlantic *("Brother Buddy was as twisted as I was during this unfortunate time. He came to his senses first, and left the area. I wish I left with him")* . . . Spent a brief time in Georgia, where he won the National tag team title with Terry Gordy . . . Came to the WWF after Capt. Lou Albano reportedly paid a million dollars for the rights to Snuka *("Albano has a lot of money, because he never gives none of it to his wrestlers")* . . . Under Albano, Snuka skyrocketed to the top of the WWF ratings, and gave then-WWF champion Bob Backlund some of his most grueling matches *("Albano said I couldn't get paid until I won the WWF title. He had even put this in my contract with him")* . . . His cage match against Backlund in Madison Square Garden saw Snuka attempt to win the WWF belt with an all-or-nothing leap from the top of the 15-foot high cage . . . Backlund rolled out of the way at the last instant, and escaped with his belt *("I saw him start to move when I was halfway down. Too late for me to do anything, of*

course") . . . The sellout crowd in the Garden was electrified by Snuka's leap, and the Superfly found himself the recipient of some cheers from fans who were awed by his great physical feat *("I heard the cheers, and I realized how much love I had in my heart for these wonderful people")* . . . In subsequent matches, started to ignore Albano's orders to break the rules, and the fans came over to his side . . . Albano began to put Snuka down on TV interviews, calling him "a worthless jungle boy," and other, even more disgusting names . . . Buddy Rogers, who was then in the WWF, told wrestling fans about Albano's manipulation of Snuka's financial affairs . . . Albano, disgusted at Snuka, ordered Ray Stevens to "hit" the Superfly on a nationwide TV show *("That coward Albano, along with fat Freddie Blassie, helped. I thought it was over for me")* . . . Stevens repeatedly piledrived Snuka onto the concrete floor, leaving the Superfly unconscious in a pool of blood . . . Snuka was taken to the hospital, where Rogers visited him every day . . . When he returned to action, Jimmy Snuka had become wrestling's most popular superstar *("Hearing those wonderful fans cheer for me made me realize how much I had missed during the past few years of darkness")* . . . Exacted revenge against the men who savaged him . . . Challenged Magnificent Muraco for Muraco's Intercontinental title, but came up empty in their series of matches *("A title is important, but not as important as the love the fans feel toward me")* . . . Currently feuding with Rowdy Roddy Piper, who insulted the Superfly during a "Piper's Pit" segment on the WWF TV show *("Brother Piper will pay. I have no trouble beating men, so crushing a girl in a skirt should be easy")* . . . Is still quiet and soft-spoken, but inside rages the anger of a man who has been wronged . . . Remains one of the most popular men in wrestling *("I will never betray the fans again")*. □

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NWA CHAMPIONS PUZZLE

(Continued from page 49)

BRUNO SAMMARTINO JR.

(Continued from page 25)

teams so I could concentrate on building up my body with powerlifting") . . . Has wrestled in several parts of the country *("I really liked Atlanta. I learned a lot there and met the toughest competition")* . . . Along with his father, Mr. Wrestling II has been a big influence on his career *("He is such a great teacher, besides being a great wrestler, I learned a greal deal from him.")* . . . Enjoys performing for the fans in his native Pittsburgh *("It's great to look out into the crowd and recognize faces. The cheers of the crowd really make a difference")* . . . Engaged in a heated feud with Larry Zbyszko *("No one makes disparaging remarks about my family and gets away with it. We gave him so much, and he spit in my father's face")* . . . Currently a big hit in Montreal *("I like this town, it has a bit of European flair")* . . . Does not aspire to match his father's success *("Let's face it, there is only one 'Living Legend.' I have to make my own career").* ☐

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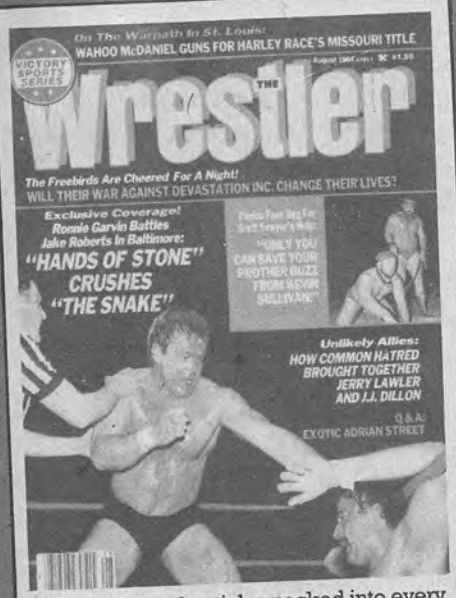

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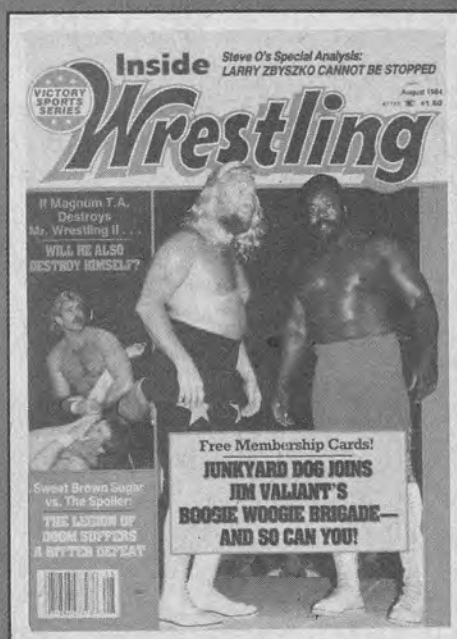

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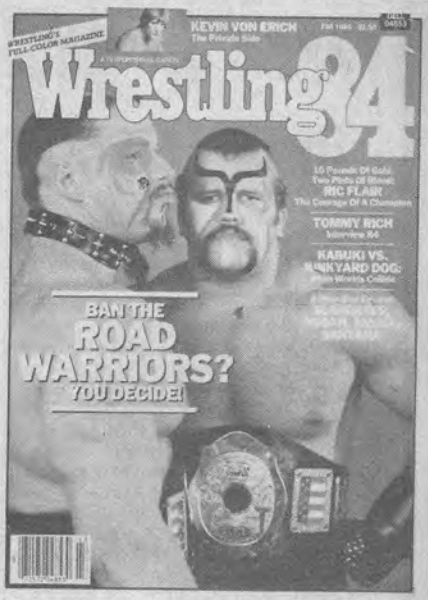

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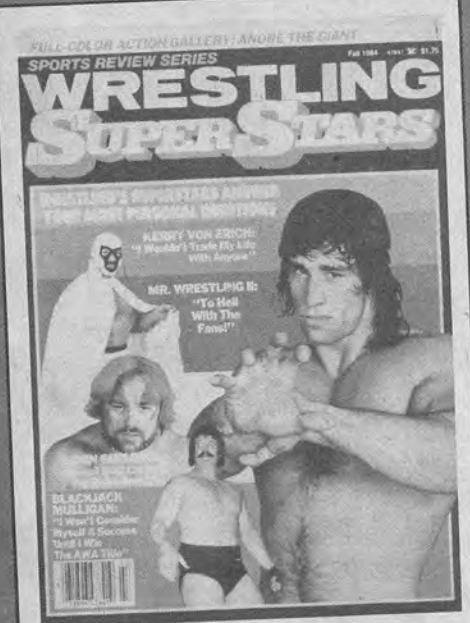

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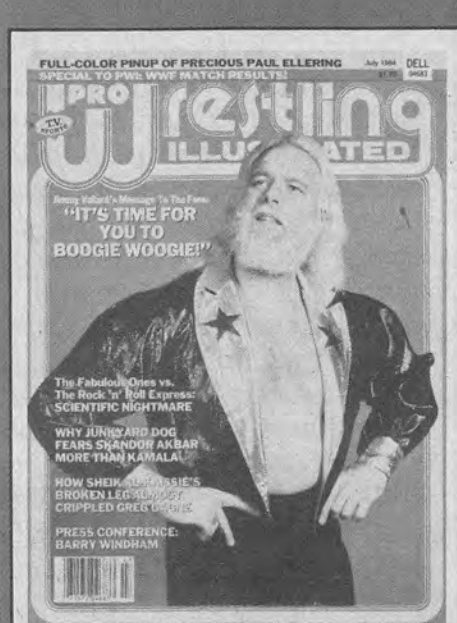

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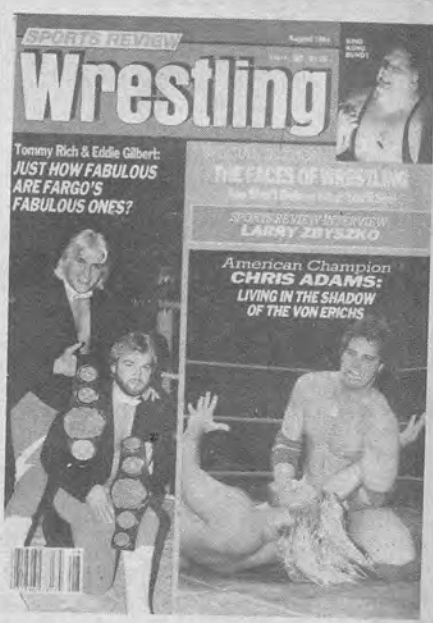

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TITO SANTANA

(Continued from page 33)

up for wrestling. That was the toughest, but the most important thing I've ever done") . . . In October 1979, Santana and Ivan Putski defeated Johnny and Jerry Valiant for the WWF tag team championship *("I've wrestled with a lot of men since then, and I've even wrestled with my idol, Mil Mascaras, but I think I wrestled best with Ivan")* . . . As Intercontinental champion, Santana finds his primary challenges coming from "Rowdy" Roddy Piper's stable *("I don't like Roddy Piper or any of the men he manages. Piper is the lowest form of human being I've ever run into")* . . . Has defended the belt successfully against "Mr. Wonderful," Paul Orndorff *("Paul Orndorff is a braggart. He should spend less time talking about what he can do and spend a little more time doing what he claims he can")* . . . His toughest title challenge came from "Dr. D" David Shultz *("I've seen David Shultz injure a lot of men. He might be the most dangerous opponent in the WWF")* . . . Says that he hopes to continue to successfully defend the belt, repaying the fans for their years of loyal support *("I love you all. Arriba!")*. ☐

DUSTY RHODES

(Continued from page 39)

Harley; tougher man, that Dream") . . . His last reign was ended by current World champion Ric Flair on September 17, 1981, in Kansas City, Missouri *("Flair is tough, I've gotta admit that. I definitely underrated him")* . . . Has never backed down from a feud, and has put himself in danger on numerous occasions just to please the fans *("I started as a rulebreaker, but I changed my ways years ago, and the fans accepted me. I owe 'em, and if I wrestle forever, I couldn't pay 'em back")* . . . Now that the NWA is back in the New York area, Rhodes intends to campaign regularly on NWA-sanctioned cards in the Northeast *("Ol' Dust has missed his New York fans, but now that I'm comin' back, the Big Apple will light up again")* . . . Still maintains a steady schedule in Florida, where he is probably the most popular athlete in the Sunshine State's history *("Florida fans were the first to cheer me on, and they'll have me around until the day I die")* . . . Currently involved in feuds with Kevin Sullivan and old archrival Superstar Graham *("Superstar may look different, but he's the same tough dude he always was. And just as mean, too")* . . . His advice and counsel is sought by many young scientific stars, who see Dusty as the guardian of morality in wrestling *("Aw, c'mon now, you're making ol' Dusty blush with statements like that, even though it's totally true, of course")* . . . Has recently been helping the career of Billy Jack, who came to Florida simply to meet Rhodes, the young man's idol *("I like Billy's taste in heroes. And nobody had better try and*

(Continued on page 62)

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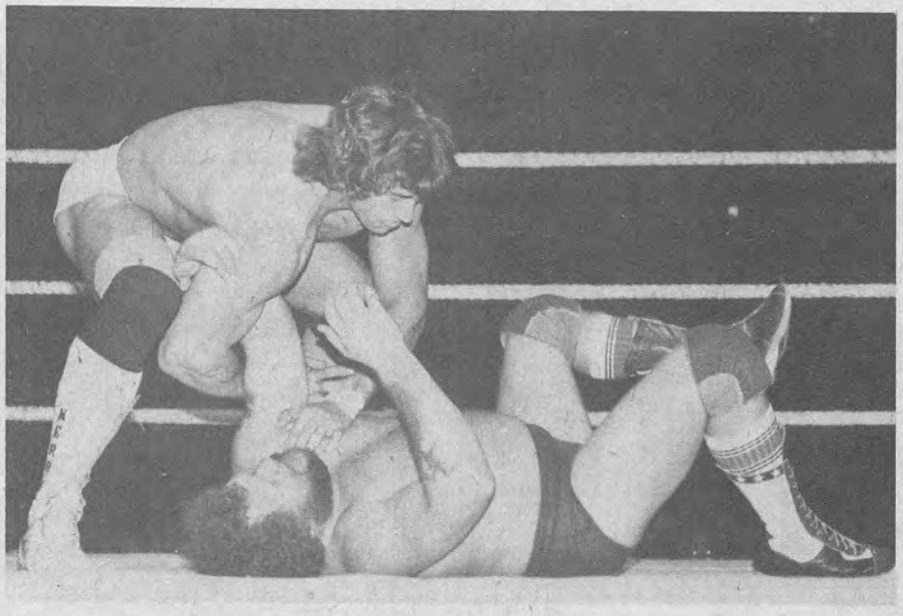
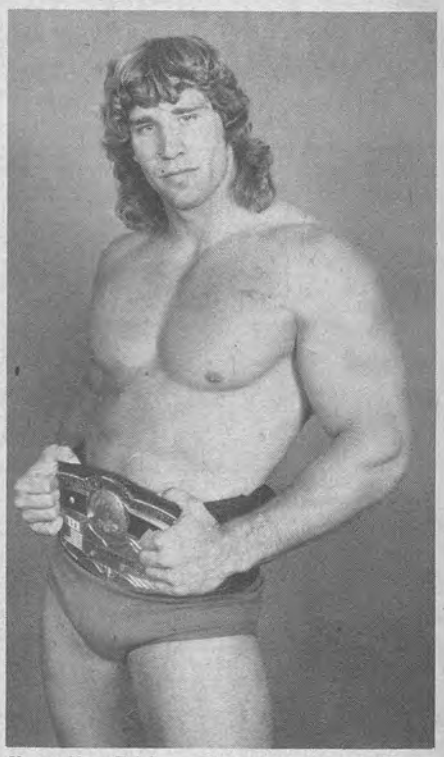
Kerry Von Erich

 (Continued from page 48)

Kerry Von Erich is commonly referred to as "The Modern-Day Warrior." The courage he has shown in his family's feud against The Freebirds has won him millions of admirers across the country and around the world. He won the NWA title from Ric Flair in May in front of 43,000 fans in Texas Stadium, but lost it to Flair a few weeks later in Japan. Von Erich is still a top contender for that World title, and he claims he will win it again and hold on to it for many years. He is arguably the most popular athlete in the state of Texas.

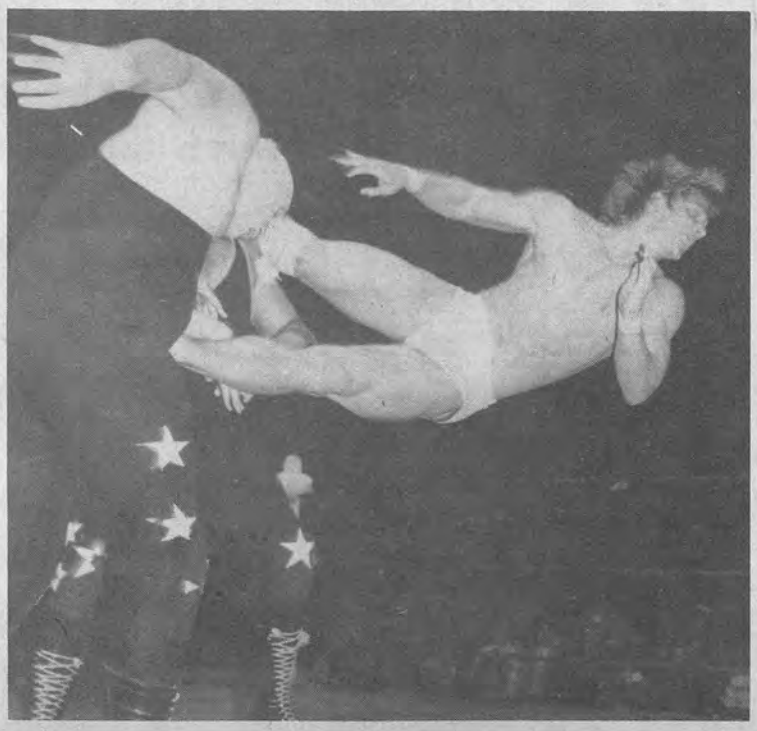


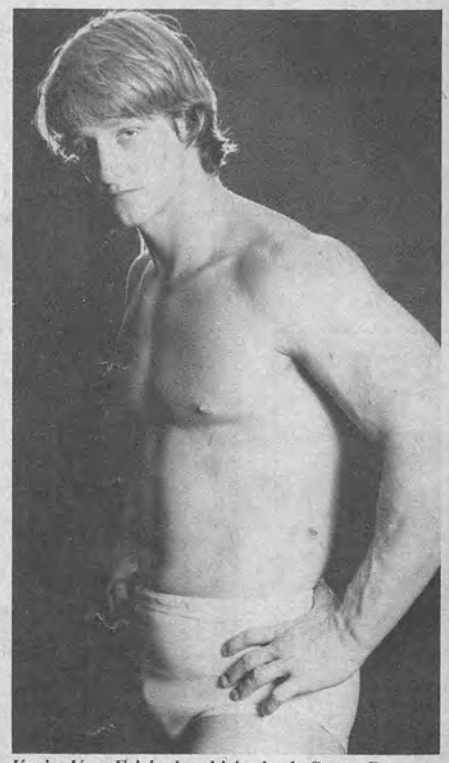


Kerry Von Erich applies an armbar on Harley Race (left). Kerry looks good with the NWA belt around his waist (above).

Kevin Von Erich

Kevin Von Erich is widely regarded as possessing one of the most outstanding dropkicks in the entire sport. Kevin's devotion to his gym training is legendary, and the effects have certainly shown themselves in his formidable physique and his speed in the ring. Kevin, along with his brother Kerry, was chosen as one of the 10 most powerful musclemen in wrestling as reported in the Summer 1984 issue of *Wrestling Superstars.* □





Kevin Von Erich dropkicks both Super Destroyers at the same time (left). Kevin was named one of the "10 most powerful musclemen" by Wrestling Superstars.

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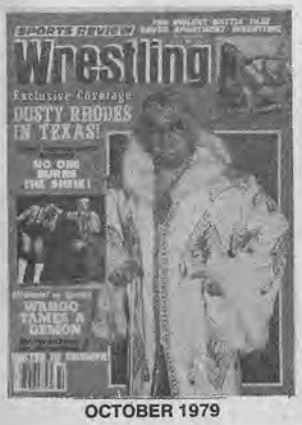

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August 1979/Cover story: Bruno-Koloff. PLUS: Flair, Orndorff, Funk.

September 1979/Cover story: Flair-McDaniel. PLUS: Garvin, Ladd, Rhodes.

October 1979/Cover stories: Rhodes, McDaniel-Spoiler. PLUS: Steamboat, Slater, Hernandez.

December 1979/Cover story: Brisco-Spoiler. PLUS: Snuka, Andre, Mascaras.

January 1980/Cover stories: Albano-Andre, Flair-Jones. PLUS: Race, Graham, Valiant.

February 1980/Cover story: Rhodes-Funk. PLUS: Race, Spoiler, Brisco.

May 1980/Cover stories: Koloff-Anderson, Brody-Spoiler. PLUS: Graham, Andre.

June 1980/Cover stories: Graham, Patera. PLUS: Rhodes, Lawler, Zbyszko.

July 1980/Cover story: Bruno-Graham. PLUS: Samoans, McGraw, Star Wars 1980.

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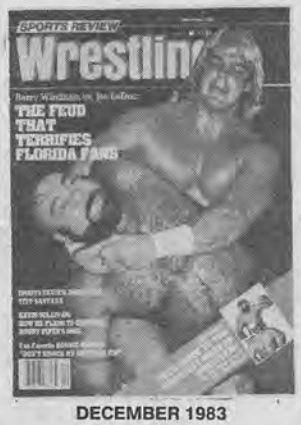

DECEMBER 1983

July 1982/Cover stories: Steamboat-Idol, Albano. PLUS: Rhodes, Lawler, Patera.

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DUSTY RHODES

(Continued from page 58)

hurt the kid while I'm around") . . . Despite not having a classic wrestling build, Rhodes is a powerful man with incredible speed *("It ain't the package, but what's inside that counts")* . . . Still has a good chance to upset Flair and begin a third reign as NWA champion *("You can bet on it, jack. The best is yet to come")* . . . Has maintained a position in the most popular ratings for more than 10 years, a feat never before accomplished in the sport's history *("Don't give me any credit for that; it's merely because the fans are awfully smart people")* . . . Is in demand in every major arena in the country *("I hope to see all of you again real soon")*. □

TOMMY RICH

(Continued from page 12)

enced veteran turned back Rich's challenge each time *("I was too young, and the man was too smart")* . . . Rich became bitterly disappointed, and soon left Georgia for Memphis, where he stunned wrestling by becoming a rulebreaker *("I was in a fog during that time. I wasn't myself")* . . . Fell under the managerial reins of Jimmy Hart, and many fans thought the Tommy Rich of the past was gone forever *("Hart knows how to talk, and he convinced me. But there are no excuses for what I did")* . . . An attack on Rich's mother by Tojo Yamamoto and Jim Valiant finally brought Rich back to emotional stability *("No one messes with my mama")* . . . Returned to Georgia and again became one of the most popular stars in the sport . . . Had his greatest moment of triumph on April 27, 1981, when he won the NWA World title from Harley Race in Augusta, Georgia *(Nothin' before, and nothin' in the future, will equal that moment when the referee handed me that belt")* . . . His inexperience was evident, however, when he faced Race in a rematch four days later, and lost the belt *("It affected me somethin' awful, losing the belt so fast. I thought I'd be NWA champ forever")* . . . Remained in Georgia and had numerous reigns as National champion, beating stars like Ron Bass, Buzz Sawyer, and Larry Zbyszko . . . Remained a top contender for the NWA belt throughout, but thus far hasn't been able to regain the prestigious World title *("It's only a matter of time, though. I'll be champ again")* . . . Georgia fans were shocked when he lost a loser leave town match to Ted DiBiase *("DiBiase cheated, but a contract is a contract")* . . . Soon after the match, a masked man named Mr. R began campaigning in Georgia, a man who bore an unmistakable physical resemblance to Rich *("Sure he looked like me. We trained together, did exactly the same things in the gym. Same amount of pushups, bench presses, etc. Why shouldn't he have the same build as me?")* . . . Mr. R, or Rich, finally left Georgia after Brad

Armstrong won the National title from DiBiase on television *("The title—and Georgia—was in good hands, so I thought it was time for me to move on somewhere else")* . . . Turned up in the Mid-Southern area, where he soon formed a fantastic tag team with Eddie Gilbert—The Fabulous Ones *("There was an immediate chemistry between Eddie and me. I had never teamed regularly before, but I just knew it was right for me now")* . . . He and Gilbert held the Mid-Southern tag team belts briefly before losing them to the Mid-Southern Spoiler and Phil Hickerson *("Right now, we've got nothing on our minds but training hard and regaining those belts")*. □

HULK HOGAN

(Continued from page 20)

ing me to wrestle like a rulebreaker, but I had decided I'd heard enough boos") . . . Engaged in a series of matches with then-AWA champion Nick Bockwinkel, but the crafty champion always managed to leave the ring with the belt *("Bockwinkel taught me a lot about the scientific side of cheating. The man had more ways to keep his title than the New York phone book has pages")* . . . Left wrestling for a brief time to appear as "Thunderlips" in the hit movie *Rocky III* . . . Returned to the AWA, but was again unsuccessful in winning the AWA belt *("Nothing had changed seen I'd left. Bockwinkel was the same cutie he'd always been")* . . . In addition to his full-time wrestling schedule, Hogan also appeared on television talk shows, like *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson* . . . In between title shots, Hogan was involved in feuds with Ken Patera and Jesse "The Body" Ventura *("I like to fight 'em big and mean, just like me")* . . . Despite several more shots at Bockwinkel, Hogan was turned back each time, as the champion usually kept his belt on a disqualification or another technicality . . . Left the AWA for Japan, where he won the

(Continued on page 67)

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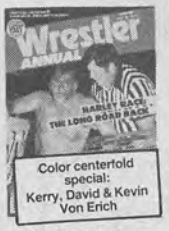

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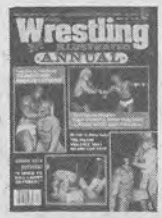

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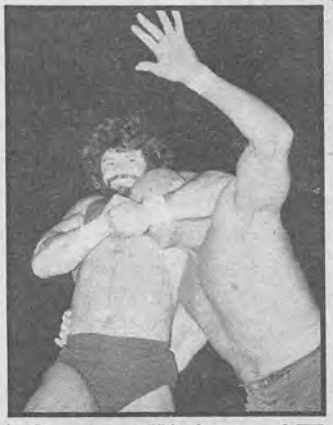

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All this and much more . . .
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HULK HOGAN

(Continued from page 63)

prestigious Gran Prix Tournament *("The Japanese fans treated me great, and it was then that I realized I had to win a major title in the United States")* . . . Fan petitions sent to the offices of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* and AWA headquarters convinced Hogan to return to the area . . . Regained his top contender status with convincing wins over Jesse Ventura and "Dr. D" David Shultz . . . Voted 1983's Inspirational Wrestler of the Year by the readers of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated,* the world's largest-selling wrestling magazine . . . Left the AWA and returned to the WWF in January 1984, after The Iron Sheik had taken the WWF title from Bob Backlund in Madison Square Garden *("It was Bob himself who asked me to come back to the WWF. The two of us realized we made better friends than enemies")* . . . The injured Backlund had been denied a return match against the Sheik by the WWF commissioners, and Hogan was named the number one contender for the title, a decision protested by fans and members of the press who thought Hogan should have earned the title match by first climbing the WWF ratings ladder . . . His match against the Sheik in Madison Square Garden was his first singles match since he had returned to the WWF . . . Crushed The Iron Sheik in less than six minutes on January 23 to win the title *("It was the greatest moment of my entire life!")* . . . Has made numerous defenses of the title against men like Paul Orndorff, David Shultz, Greg Valentine, and all three Samoans *(Bring 'em on, daddy, the Hulkster is ready for anyone!")* . . . Still in demand by Hollywood producers, who are trying to entice the "Incredible One" into a career in front of the cameras . . . Hopes to be remembered by wrestling fans as one of the sport's all-time greats *("I've got a lot of years to prove I'm the best wrester who ever lived, and I intend to do it!").* □

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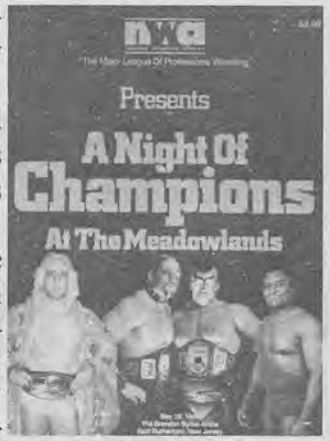

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6—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX

7—**KERRY VON ERICH**
251, Denton, TX

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10—**CARLOS COLON**
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Combined weight: 567 pounds

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Combined weight: 521 pounds

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5—**IVAN KOLOFF**
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6—**NIKOLAI VOLKOFF**
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262, Teheran, Iran

8—**ANGELO MOSCA**
309, Caledou, Ontario

9—**JIM GARVIN**
235, Tampa, FL

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NWA

World Champion:
RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN

1—**WAHOO McDANIEL**
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2—**THE SPOILER**
266, parts unknown

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8—**CARLOS COLON**
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10—**RICK STEAMBOAT**
238, Honolulu, HI

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1—**NICK BOCKWINKEL**
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2—**ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER**
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9—**BRAD RHEINGANS**
248, Appleton, MN

10—**CURT HENNIG**
235, Minneapolis, MN

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2—**GREG VALENTINE**
243, Seattle, WA
3—**BOB BACKLUND**
242, Princeton, MN
4—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
310, Parris Island, SC
5—**JIMMY SNUKA**
250, Fiji Islands
6—**COWBOY BOB ORTON**
245, Kansas City, KS
7—**PAUL ORNDORFF**
253, Brandon, FL
8—**THE IRON SHEIK**
262, Teheran, Iran
9—**DAVID SHULTZ**
265, Memphis, TN
10—**GEORGE STEELE**
298, Detroit, MI

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1—**THE SPOILER**
266, parts unknown
2—**RONNIE GARVIN**
231, Montreal, Quebec
3—**TED DiBIASE**
247, Omaha, NE
4—**BRAD ARMSTRONG**
223, Marietta, GA
5—**JAKE ROBERTS**
243, Baton Rouge, LA
6—**BILLY JACK**
245, Portland, OR
7—**NIKOLAI VOLKOFF**
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8—**KRUSHER KHRUSHCHEV**
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247, Columbus, GA

WORLD CLASS

1—**GINO HERNANDEZ**
224, Houston, TX
2—**JIM GARVIN**
235, Tampa, FL
3—**KERRY VON ERICH**
251, Denton, TX
4—**CHRIS ADAMS**
225, Stratford on Avon, England
5—**KEVIN VON ERICH**
254, Denton, TX
6—**TERRY GORDY**
289, Chattanooga, TN
7—**THE MISSING LINK**
273, parts unknown
8—**MIKE VON ERICH**
220, Denton, TX
9—**KILLER KHAN**
312, Mongolia
10—**BUTCH REED**
249, Kansas City, MO

MID-ATLANTIC

1—**WAHOO McDANIEL**
260, Midland, TX
2—**ANGELO MOSCA JR.**
234, Caledou, Ontario
3—**TULLY BLANCHARD**
235, San Antonio, TX
4—**JIMMY VALIANT**
251, New York, NY
5—**JUNKYARD DOG**
260, New Orleans, LA
6—**RICK STEAMBOAT**
238, Honolulu, HI
7—**MARK YOUNGBLOOD**
230, Amarillo, TX
8—**BUZZ SAWYER**
240, St. Petersburg, FL
9—**THE MASKED OUTLAW**
244, parts unknown
10—**EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET**
220, South Wales

FLORIDA

1—**ANGELO MOSCA**
309, Caledou, Ontario
2—**SUPERSTAR GRAHAM**
260, Paradise Valley, AZ
3—**BILLY JACK**
245, Portland, OR
4—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
5—**MIKE ROTUNDO**
245, Syracuse, NY
6—**BARRY WINDHAM**
230, Sweetwater, TX
7—**DICK SLATER**
235, Tampa, FL
8—**RON BASS**
285, Pampa, TX
9—**KEVIN SULLIVAN**
235, Boston, MA
10—**BLACK BART**
261, Pampa, TX

MID-SOUTH

1—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
2—**MR. WRESTLING III**
275, parts unknown
3—**KRUSHER KHRUSHCHEV**
303, Thief River Falls, MN
4—**TERRY TAYLOR**
219, Vero Beach, FL
5—**JUNKYARD DOG**
260, New Orleans, LA
6—**BUTCH REED**
249, Kansas City, MO
7—**MR. WRESTLING II**
232, Atlanta, GA
8—**NIKOLAI VOLKOFF**
345, Siberia, Russia
9—**JAY YOUNGBLOOD**
237, Amarillo, TX
10—**ERNIE LADD**
354, Houston, TX

MID-SOUTHERN

1—**RICK RUDE**
233, Robinsdale, MN
2—**JERRY LAWLER**
234, Memphis, TN
3—**MASAO ITO**
247, Osaka, Japan
4—**RANDY SAVAGE**
235, Sarasota, FL
5—**AUSTIN IDOL**
240, Las Vegas, NV
6—**TOMMY RICH**
238, Hendersonville, TN
7—**EDDIE GILBERT**
222, Lexington, TN
8—**RICK MORTON**
215, Nashville, TN
9—**ROBERT GIBSON**
217, Pensacola, FL
10—**JIM NEIDHARDT**
248, Calgary, Alberta

NORTHWEST

1—**RIP OLIVER**
245, Tampa, FL
2—**BRETT SAWYER**
242, St. Petersburg, FL
3—**PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE**
245, Minneapolis, MN
4—**MR. EBONY**
240, parts unknown
5—**TOM PRITCHARD**
220, Houston, TX
6—**ARMANDO GUERRERO**
233, Juarez, Mexico
7—**THE ASSASSIN**
240, parts unknown
8—**MIKE MILLER**
260, Memphis, TN
9—**DOUG SOMERS**
244, Minneapolis, MN
10—**IGOR VOLKOFF**
259, Moscow, Russia

RATINGS ANALYSIS

This column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

YOU MIGHT ALREADY have looked at the ratings on the previous two pages, or you may be familiar with this system of ratings from one of our sister publications such as *Pro Wrestling Illustrated, The Wrestler, Wrestling Superstars, Sports Review Wrestling, Wrestling USA,* or *Wrestling 84.*

For those unfamiliar with our ratings system, a quick introduction:

Who are all these people, anyway? The ratings as presented in *Victory Sports Wrestling* concern wrestlers in 14 separate categories:

Ric Flair

Top 10: This will be the top-10 wrestlers nationwide as determined by the editors of *Victory Sports Wrestling.* Rankings will be made on the basis of ability, quality of opposition, and won-lost records for the past month. A wrestler need not be a champion to qualify for this category. Regional considerations (whether a wrestler competes in Texas or Georgia or Oregon or wherever) are not a basis for placement in the top 10.

Tag Teams: Again, selected by the editors. A team does not necessarily have to hold a championship in order to qualify for this ranking. Where a team does hold a title, however, that title is indicated. If a team does not hold a title, their standing as contender (for example, "Top contenders to NWA tag team title") will be listed along with their names.

Most Popular, Most Hated: These ratings are based on monthly nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on the volume of mail for each wrestler, pro and con, that comes to our offices.

NWA, AWA, and WWF: These ratings are compiled with the assistance of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters throughout the country. NWA and AWA World champions Ric Flair and Rick Martel, and WWF titlist Hulk Hogan, are listed along with the top-10 contenders to their respective titles.

In the NWA, the U.S. heavyweight champion is rated number one, and the National champion is number two. Other major NWA regional champions are top-rated candidates for inclusion in the NWA top 10.

In the WWF, the Intercontinental champion is rated number one directly behind the WWF heavyweight champion.

Brett Sawyer

Georgia, Florida, Mid-Atlantic, World Class, Northwest: These five areas are all affiliated with the NWA, the world's largest, oldest, and most established wrestling organization. The category "Northwest" refers to the Pacific Northwest, centered around Portland, Oregon, and Seattle, Washington. Regional champions are rated number one, with the exception of Florida. In that area, the Southern champion is rated number one, and the Florida champion occupies the number two spot.

Mid-Southern: In the Mid-Southern area, encompassing Tennessee, Kentucky, and surrounding areas, the Mid-Southern champion is rated number one.

Mid-South: Not to be confused with "Mid-Southern," the Mid-South ratings represent Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. The number one position is occupied by the North American champion.

But what about that title change that just took place? "Ratings Analysis" often receives mail asking why the ratings aren't more current. This is due to the nature of the magazine publishing industry: It takes a lot of time to have the magazine printed, bound, and distributed. This is known as "lag time," and title changes that take place during any magazine's lag time will not be seen in the ratings until the next issue.

You'll notice that on the top of the ratings page, there is a line that says, "For period ended . . ."

This notation is included to show the closing date of the ratings. In effect, that is the press time of the magazine, and any title changes that take place after that date will not be reflected in those particular ratings.

The address for mail: We always welcome your comments on our ratings system. Send them to: "Ratings Analysis" c/o *Victory Sports Wrestling,* Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571.

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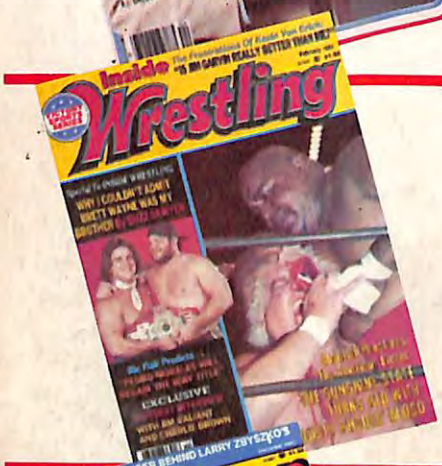

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